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ABSTRACT

This document includes papers presented at three round tables at the 1985 International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) conference. Papers from the Round Table on Management of Library Associations include: (1) "Political Persuasion of Library Associations for the National Development of Libraries. The View of the Scandinavian Library Associations" (M. Torngen, Sweden); (2) "Persuading Politicians to Support U.S. Libraries" (Eileen D. Cooke, United States); and (3) "The Role of the Polish Librarians Association in Creation of Library and Information Policy in Poland" (Stefan Kubow, Poland). Mary Niles Maack (United States) presented a paper at the Round Table for Editors of Library Journals entitled "The Literature of Librarianship in Francophone Africa." Two papers presented at the Round Table on Audiovisual Media are included here: "Universal Availability of Non-Book Materials in Australia" (Paul T. McNally, Australia) and "UAP (Universal Availability of Publications) and Audiovisual Materials" (Maurice B. Line, United Kingdom). (THC)

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IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, CHICAGO

Division: Management and Technology

Section: Round Table for the Management of Library Associations

1985

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POLITICAL PERSUASION OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS FOR THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF LIBRARIES.

THE VIEW OF THE SCANDINAVIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS

by

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Political persuasion of library associations for the national development of libraries. The view of the Scandinavian library associations

The topic of political persuasion of library associations for the national development of libraries is of high current interest in Scandinavia, where library associations in Denmark, Norway and Sweden are discussing organization and statutes. In this paper I will concentrate upon public libraries as political persuasion according to research libraries is different through its limitation to the state level, and I will focus the problems in Denmark and Sweden as they are very much the same. You cannot say that there exists some sort of united Scandinavian view, that has been agreed upon, among the library associations in the countries. But you will find that the public library development and the library associations have a lot in common. There exists the same basic idea of the role of public libraries in a democracy, of their importance for availability of information and knowledge, free and equal to all.

The Danish, Norwegian and Swedish library associations are all practising their activities and working towards the goal to promote national library development in a network, which includes other library associations, politicians on all levels, political parties, the ministry of culture, state library bureaus, library central agencies, authorities of vital interest, different organizations, unions etc. The library association in each country is by no means alone in promoting library development. But it is hard to measure its strength.

If you look at the amount of policymaking and lobbywork that is done in different sections of library fields you could say that the library associations are very strong. In all the three countries the library associations exert influence and promote library development by taking part in different boards, in committees, in investigations on different levels: state, regional and local levels. They are all remittance body for different government investigations. They are all involved in promoting the debate about library development in their library journals and through the publishing work activity. They start investigation of their own e.g. in the field of new technology and educate politicians and professionals in a comprehensive course and conference activity.

The possibilities and channels for political persuasion seem endless.

If you, on the other hand, look at one single question, you might find that the library association is weak. I'll give you an example from Sweden. Sweden is the only country in Scandinavia that has not a library law. The state support to public libraries is very small, only 2 % of the total cost of public libraries. The communities, which finance the public libraries have the responsibility to decide for themselves the level and ambition of local public library development. Political parties in Sweden, except for the communist party, have never accepted a library law in regard to the communities right of self-determination.

During the last four years we have had a state investigation in Sweden about the goals and the role of public library in society. During these years

the Swedish library association tried very hard to get the question of legislation thoroughly analyzed. We were supported by many authorithies and unions in the work to persuade the politicians about the need of a library law. We realized that we could never have a comprehensive law that fixed a minimum level of a library service in a community and gave adequate state support to reach this goal. We could not even persuade the library commission to analyse the law question. So we ended up in demanding a minimum law that could confirm the need of public libraries managed by professional staff in every community and above all the need of a library service without costs for loan.

By founding this mini-library law the society could confirm the importance of public libraries in society. And that should not cost the state any money at all. But it would be of great political value. But we failed. We have not succeeded in persuading the politicians in the ministry of culture. And it is not sufficent comfort that the political parties, except for the conservatives, now declare the necessity of the free-loan-principle. But the consequence of no law is already there. Conservatively ruled communities are prepared to raise their fees, some have already done so, even for loan-cards. In Sept[illegible]mber we have a general election in Sweden. If conservative [illegible]nds are [illegible]ving over the country, the public libraries certainly will have [illegible] times to face than up till now.

One way of looking upon the topic of political persuasion is to raise the following question:

Have the statutes and the organization of a library association anything to do with the strength of the association?

Which library association is the best policy-maker and exerts the strongest political persuasion? Is it when there are only professionals within the organization, only politicians or a mixture?

These questions are some of the key questions at the moment in Scandinavia at least within the Danish and Swedish library associations and there are no solutions yet. But the answer has nothing to do with the fact that the Swedish library association includes all types of libraries, but the Danish library association does not include research libraries. Nor has it anything to do with the amount of members.

No the answer is found in financing and membership. In the two library associationsthere are both institutional and individual membership. Most of the money is paid by the institutional members. Beside this the Danish library association has had quite a bit financial support from the state, the Swedish library association almost none. Up till now politicians and professionals have been working within the library association, side by side, on some sort of equal level as elected representatives for their members quite unlike the situation in the communities where politicians are decisionmakers. In the informal and formal meeting between the two you really have had the strength of the library association and excellent opportunities of mutual, political and professional persuasion. The library association has been a good platform for interacting.

Membership fees from the rich institutional members and from the poor individual members have been shared on equal terms. But now something has changed the situation. The politicians want another structure of power and I'll soon tell you about the consequences within the library associations. I got a very interesting explanation of this change from an interwiew with the chairman of a state committe investigating power in society. This investigation has been going on for ten years in Norway and the results were presented this spring.

In the interview the chairman regretted that he, in spite of the ten years had to stop now and could not go on looking at the present interesting change of power in society. Especially he had wanted to look upon "the nordic model", which stands for solutions of problems by means of negociation. During postwar-time, said the chairman in the interview, the nordic model has had a high status. The different countries have been able to combine democracy, development of industrial democracy and a peaceful cooperation between labour and capital. Politics in the Nordic countries has been regarded upon as fresh air and clean water - it was always there and seemed unchangeable. But the situation has changed. After 35 years of firmness the nordic model is not the same as it used to be. The reasons are change of economy, change of politics, change of cultural behaviour because of broad education etc. The organizations are loosing their strength, at least in Norway, he says, negotiations are not the only solutions of problems. Parliamentarism, hierarcic steering and a freer market are growing in force. The public sector is critisized. All the countries seem to be looking for a new vision of how to deal with the public sector - collective but not necessarily ruled by the state. All this creates a very unsteady situation, he says, and adds that it is not at all clear how the nordic model for welfare is going to develop in the future.

So the change of economy has had an effect on parliamentarism and of course on political persuasion.

Public library development in Denmark and Norway for example is adjusted by a library law and has been supported by state financing, where money was delivered from the state to the communities for the purpose of library development. Since about a year there is a total change in financing. The state support is now decentralized and distributed to the communities without any special destination. The local politicians can decide upon which needs that should be covered within the communities. The new situation really claims a more intense political persuasion on the local level and some uncertainty according to the equal standard of library development in the country. In Sweden we have, as I already mentioned, no library law and a small state support to public libraries. But - you could say - in spite of the big differences that still exist between the public libraries within the communities - that public libraries in Sweden have developed in a rather positive way after all e.g. new area as outreach acitivities, library service to ethnic minorities, library service in industries etc.

The good development has been reached as politicians and professionals on different levels have worked harmoniously together for the goal.

This has been possible in a climate of good economy. But now, as the economic situation has changed, and the cuts hit the public libraries the relation between politicians and professionals is affected. The politician suddenly has difficulties to handle the requirements of cuts. He starts dealing with details and administrating and partly takes over the job from the professionals. The politician and the professional very seldom have the same ideas of the ideal cuts. So the old friends get into conflict with one another. This is the development that has now reached the library association in Denmark and Sweden. The discussion within the Danish library association has now reached the point where the politicians and even some librarians mean that it would be better to change the library association into a pure politically ruled organization. They will make the clean cut. The librarians shall leave the library association and work within the union. Then they could speak and negotiate with the politicians on equal terms. But nothing is yet decided in Denmark. Many politicians and professionals are very worried about this development.

In Sweden you can notice the same tendency. But there the politicians talk about a new structure of power within the library association. A new plan for organizing the Swedish library association was put forward at the annual meeting of the library association in June. In this plan the role of the professionals is considerably weakend. But it is necessary to add that both in Denmark and Sweden the politicians say that they need the professional support.

The development in Denmark and Sweden seems to prove that the Norwegian investigator was right - that the nordic model of negotiation is no longer so useful as earlier and that parliamentarism is getting stronger in the meaning that the politicians are emphasizing the determinative power.

There is another important issue too that goes alongside with the weakening of the nordic model.

Is there a risk that a library association in itself can be preserving and act as a conservative body? Not flexible enough to realize changes like this in society? Is this what has happened to the library associations in Denmark and Sweden? Of course there is always a risque as people don't generally like changes. But on the other hand there ought to be less risk within a library association as the people working for it all the time must look upon the future, orientate themselves about development in society and walk two steps in advance to stimulate discussion and development whether it concerns cuts, book-stock management or new technology. This problem is not within the library association I think. It concerns more the inertia within the communities to realize all that could be possible. Of course this has to do with the harsh economic climate and attitudes. And in Denmark the librarians are accused by the politicians in the library journal of being restricted and conservative not letting new medias in to the libraries at the expense of books. But the librarians mean that they first of all have a responsibility to see to it that there is enough economic space for the written word, for books.

So this gives no answer to the question: How do we as professionals handle this new situation with a demand from the politicians of stronger political power within the library associations?

As far as I can see from the Swedish point of view it is of great importance that we keep a good cooperative climate with the politicians. It is necessary that our professional skill is convincing and that the politicians can rely on the opinions that are given them. And the other way round: that the politicians act so that the professionals can rely on the political judgment.

I have always thought that this balance was satisfactory for both sides within the organization and statutes of the Swedish library association. Representatives for the communities, politicians or librarians., are in majority in determinative bodies within the association. The communities can elect only politicians if they want to.

There is today no solution of the question. But it is quite clear that we as professionals must follow the democratic rules. If the politicians want to take over the library association the professionals must define their role. We will not accept a bad cooperative climate within the association, nor a bad financial situation for professionals and of course not accept a situation where the value of professionalism is hidden by the want of power. Whether the library association after this crisis will exert political persuasion with politicians and professionals together within the library association or if there must be another solution we don't know yet.

While we discuss these problems we will be able to listen to good advice from another state committee this time a Swedish one. Like the Norwegian investigation, earlier mentioned in this paper, a new state committee will look upon the structure of power and democracy in Sweden. Among other things the public sector, the organizations and the forming of opinions will be studied. I am sure that all the Scandinavian countries will get much nourishment for further discussion about the ideal library association in Scandinavia.

Stockholm 1985-07-11

Margareta Törngren

IFLA 1985

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PERSUADING POLITICIANS TO SUPPORT U. S. LIBRARIES

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"THE ROLE OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS AS
EFFECTIVE PRESSURE GROUPS FOR
'POLITICAL' ACTION"

Persuading Politicians to Support U.S. Libraries

Eileen D. Cooke
Director, Washington Office
American Library Association

Access to library and information services is a public good, in the national interest. This philosophy is well stated by one of our Founding Fathers and fourth President of the United States of America, James Madison:

> A popular government, without popular information, or the means of acquiring it, is but a prologue to a farce or a tragedy; or, perhaps both. Knowledge will forever govern ignorance; and a people who mean to be their own governors must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives.

The American Library Association in an effort to help improve public library service and extend its reach to the millions of people still without ready access to even minimal service opened a Washington Office in October of 1945. Its major objective was to convince Congress of the vital need for federal aid to help stimulate state and local support for people without public library service in rural areas. Subsequently, The Library Demonstration Bill was introduced in both the house and Senate on March 12, 1946 but was not finally enacted by Congress until ten years later. The legislation was reintroduced every two years over the sessions of six Congresses before it finally gained sufficient support as the Library Services Act to win full Congressional approval and be signed into law by President Eisenhower June 19, 1956.

That legislation, which was to help towns with populations of 10,000 and under to begin or to improve public library service, was the first federal aid for state and local library development. It was also a tribute to the persistence and determination of the leaders and membership of ALA.

Over the years, through the combined efforts of librarians, trustees, and friends of libraries, often working with community coalitions and state and national organizations, these various federal (national) library programs have yielded over $3.4 billion in federal aid to help develop and improve library service throughout the country. That is, starting with the rural Library Services Act in 1956 and coming up to the current fiscal year, 1985 (Oct. 1, 1984--Sept. 30, 1985). For those who want details, the total breaks down as follows: LSA/LSCA, FY 1957 through FY 1985--$1,399,621,750; ESEA II and later IV-B, FY 1966--'81--$1,714,619,000; HEA II, FY 1966--'85--$323,587,500.

It is important to keep in mind that the purpose of federal library aid is to stimulate greater state and local support, usually with requirements for maintenance of effort to prevent supplanting local support with national funding, and with provisions for federal funds to be matched by state or local funds. The net effect often results in doubling and even trippling total support for library activities when state and local dollars are joined with federal.

Once library programs have won Congressional support and been signed into law, there is no guarantee that they will be funded each year or continued beyond their initial period of authorization. For example, the Library Services Act of 1956 was first designed as a five-year demonstration to encourage the development of library service to people living in rural areas. Every five-year extension since, including the 1984 LSCA Amendments signed into law October 17 by President Reagan, has required continuing efforts and reaching out to library users in the communities, as well as to longtime supporters in Congress, to assure final success. Congress reacts most favorably to those issues their constituents identify as valuable and essential. Scarce federal funds and heavy competition from other sectors of the education and public service community requires constant monitoring for justification of need for federal support and accountability for what has been accomplished.

For example, during the first 25 years of the Library Services and Construction Act, 17 million people benefited from public library services for the first time. In addition, 100 million people experienced improved opportunities for public library assistance; 171 million books were purchased, with a mix of LSCA, state, and local funds; and 2,000 public library buildings were built or remodeled.

Since the 25th anniversary of LSCA in 1981, funds going out to the State Library Agencies which administer these programs are increasingly targeted by priorities set forth in the law to services for people with special needs--the disadvantaged, the institutionalized, the handicapped, the aging, and persons with limited English-speaking ability. More than half of the Title I, Public Library Services, projects involve long-term, on-going activities and have some form of interlibrary cooperation involved in their services or in the acquisition of materials. The State Library Agencies have been able to install or upgrade telecommunications linkages among public, academic, and special libraries because of LSCA III, Interlibrary Cooperation and Resource Sharing. And the states are actively participaing in intrastate and multistate networks.

For the past four years, the President's budget has proposed eliminating LSCA, stating that libraries are a state and local responsibility and that the program has been successful in helping to make public library service available to virtually every community throughout the country. Despite this, Congress has rejected these budget proposals and continued funding and even increased it.

To some extent, the solid support for LSCA in Congress may be attributed to the 1979 White House Conference on Library and Information Services, which involved over 100,000 people during the course of the preceding State Governors' Conferences and the final national conference in Washington, D.C.. This process, among other things, helped to generate a greater public awareness of the benefits

derived from LSCA as well as the needs and challenges still to be met in this information and technology driven age.

It is particularly ironic that the Reagan Administration budget would propose eliminating funding for LSCA in the coming fiscal year, FY 1986, while in the budget documents they note the serious national problem of adult illiteracy. The LSCA Amendments of 1984 include a new Title VI, Library Literacy Programs. It authorizes $5 million for grants of up to $25,000 for literacy projects directly to state and local public libraries on a competitive basis. Pending at this writing is a Senate Appropriations Committee proposal to appropriate $5 million to implement this new program. If finally approved, it would stimulate even greater effort in the U.S. to overcome a mind-boggling problem: 27 million adults in the U.S. are functionally illiterate.

The justification for this program is ample. Functional illiteracy costs the U.S. over $224 billion every year in welfare payments, crime, incompetent job performance, lost tax revenues and remedial education. Among the unemployed, 75 percent have inadequate reading and writing skills. Illiteracy among prisoners is 20 percent greater than in the general population. Governments at all levels spend over $6.5 million annually on 700,000 prison inmates. Yet, literacy programs reach only 5 percent of adult functional illiterates.

To help combat the problem of adult functional illiteracy, ALA began in 1979 to train resource personnel who in turn trained others in the library field to conduct literacy programs. At the same time, the Association determined that its own training resources, and those of other literacy groups, were not sufficient. Accordingly, ALA organized the Coalition for Literacy, a group of 11 national organizations, each with a distinctive role to play nationally and locally in the delivery of information and services. The organizations are:

The American Library Association (which coordinates Coalition activities)

American Association of Advertising Agencies

American Association for Adult and Continuing Education

B. Dalton Bookseller

CONTACT, Inc.

International Reading Association

Laubach Literacy International

Literacy Volunteers of America, Inc.

National Advisory Council on Adult Education

National Commission on Libraries and Information Science

National Council of State Directors of Adult Education

In addition to support received from the groups represented in the Coalition and other state, local, and grass-roots programs, the Coalition for Literacy received attention from the U.S. Department of Education and is a major element in President Reagan's Adult Literacy Initiative which he announced in a ceremony at the White House on September 7, 1983. Leaders from Congress, education, business and industry, church and service groups, and state and local governments. During the course of the ceremony, President Reagan said, "if we're to renew our economy, protect our freedom, we must sharpen the skills of every American mind and enlarge the potential of every individual American life. Unfortunately, the hidden problem of adult illiteracy holds back too many of our citizens, and as a nation, we, too, pay a price."

On December 12, 1984, the Coalition for Literacy, in partnership with the Advertising Council, Inc., launched a national literacy awareness media campaign. The Ad Council will be developing professional television, radio, magzine, press, billboard, and hand-out materials to be aired, printed, and disseminated on a no-charge, public service basis, with an estimated donated

broadcast and print value exceeding $20 million per year. The Coalition for Literacy is seeking funding to cover production and printing costs and for clearinghouse responses to the three-year campaign. The drive's basic resource is a national toll-free hotline, staffed by CONTACT, Inc., a human service information agency. The free 800 telephone number refers callers to local literacy programs and resources. Where no programs exist and calls are numerous, the Coalition will help to establish new agencies.

Also providing major support, financial and otherwise, for this national effort is the Business Council for Effective Literacy which was formed in late 1983 to encourage business and industry to join in the fight against adult illiteracy and to help give guidance on how to do it. One of its first actions was to give a $400,000 grant to help launch the three-year awareness campaign of the Coalition for Literacy. The BCEL is headed by Harold W. McGraw, Jr., Chairman of the Board of McGraw-Hill, Inc.

Calling additional attention to the illiteracy problem and the role of libraries, Senator Claiborne Pell, the ranking minority member of the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee, inserted in the August 3, 1984 Congressional Record a report of the U.S. Department of Education ("Alliance for Excellence: Librarians Respond to a Nation at Risk"). He alerted his colleagues to the report which had just been released and reminded them that the LSCA Amendments, which were then awaiting final action in Congress, included a new program to help eradicate illiteracy. He said:

> One issue we are considering in the pending LSCA amendment is a special program to help eradicate illiteracy. Alliance for Excellence points out the storehouse of information open to us is incredible, made available through myriad computers and assorted high-speed telecommunications devices throughout the world.
>
> However, all this information is lost if we cannot put it to use. Again, the report reminds us: 'A nation with...citizens who cannot read well enough to decipher a job application form must be convinced

> that a Learning Society is a practical, attainable goal. Every individual should have the knowledge to understand complexities that were never imagined in the past.
>
> This is where the library, allied with family and education can come into its own. It has a golden chance to make a real difference. No other institution in the community is able to serve the Learning Society in quite the same way. No other has such cultural riches side by side with access to the myriad facts, figures, ideas, and impressions of the day.

Reflecting on the challenges laid out for libraries, Senator Pell said that it was none too soon to consider planning for the second White House Conference on Library and Information Services and he announced that he would be introducing legislation proposing the Conference in the 99th Congress in 1985. And, indeed, on April 16 of this year, he did introduce Senate Joint Resolution 112, a bill calling for a White House Conference on Library and Information Services no later than 1989. An identical bill, House Joint Resolution 244, was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives on April 18 by Rep. William Ford, another long-time library supporter and Chairman of the Congressional subcommittee to which the legislation would be referred for future action. The task now before the American Library Association will be to generate grassroots support (letters, visits, and phone calls from constituents) soliciting cosponsors for the House and Senate bills in Congress.

One way to proceed would involve ALA's Legislation Committee in drafting a resolution supporting the two Congressional bills and their purposes and having the ALA Council, the governing body of the Association adopt the resolution. From there it would be disseminated to our State Library Association Chapter Presidents and Federal Relations Coordinators, urging them to communcate with their respective Congressional delegations requesting support and sponsorship of the bills. Following that sequence of events and assuming considerable support, the ALA Washington Office would press for hearings

to be held in the appropriate House and Senate education subcommittees to consider the merits of proposals. Prior to the hearings stage, we would sound out allies with mutual concerns for access to quality library and information services, and suggest that they plan to participate in the Congressional hearings, stating their views from the perspective of their respective organizations and agencies.

We also need to assess what our collective library and information resources are as a nation, to consider what new directions we must explore in the future in the midst of a flood of information and increasingly sophisticated technology overtaking us. Talk of information policy, transborder data flow, the global village, global economy, and the balance of payments often seems to be on a collision course with domestic and international copyright matters, freedom of information, preservation,and national security. All of these issues depend on access to up-to-date information to assist decision-makers with their solutions. Planning for a White House Conference can help us to lay out an agenda to make libraries more responsive to such user needs in the years ahead.

In addition, it will, of course, be appropriate to go back to the 64 resolutions developed at the first White House Conference to see what has been implemented, what may still be relevant or needs updating, and what should be put aside as no longer timely or appropriate. There is a group that has been monitoring the implementation of recommendations made during the first Conference called the White House Conference on Library and Information Services Taskforce (WHCLIST). Two representatives from each state,elected by their state White House Conference delegations,were asked to meet annually and monitor the progress of implementation. So far, 55 of the 64 resolutions have had some action taken if not completed.

Of the 20 to 30 items that we routinely monitor in the ALA Washington Office, I would say those of most concern on a far-reaching and continuing basis

have to do with domestic and international copyright issues, pay equity, postal subsidies, the American Telephone and Telegraph (AT&T) divestiture with its concomitant rate increases for the dedicated private lines libraries use, and proposals to downgrade federal librarians and contract out federal libraries, plus the Office of Management and Budget's proposed circular dealing with the management of federal information. At stake with the latter issue is the viability of the nearly 1400 Federal Depository Libraries throughout the country which provide free access to government publications developed with taxpayers' support. Drastic curtailment of these publications, disseminated through the Government Printing Offices is proposed in the name of paperwork reduction and federal deficit reduction.

In writing about our information age in Megatrends, author John Naisbitt says:

> The source of power is not money in the hands of a few, but information in the hands of many. Information has become a natural resource as important as coal, iron, and oil in an earlier era.

In a similar vein a May 24, 1985 "Washington Post" editorial entitled "Statistical Error" states that:

> The government and the public need more and better, not less and more expensive statistical information. The amounts that can be saved by OMB's proposals are nickels and dimes. The things that could be destroyed are gold.

Since access is one of ALA's top priorities and our President's theme this past year has been "Forging Coalitions for the Public Good", you may rest assured that we will continue to rally the troops--our community allies--to support these causes which are in the national interest. As Mr. Josey said in his inqugural address last year:

> It is more important than ever that those of us in ALA must band together in a powerful unifying force to remind this nation that libraries not only support the demands of an information age but they also ensure an informed citizenry, which is essential to a democratic republic.

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Division: Management and Technology
Round Table: Management of Library Associations

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The Role of the Polish Librarians Association in Creation of Library and Information Policy in Poland

by

Stefan Kubów
Polish Librarians Association
Warsaw, Poland

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The role of Polish Librarians Association in State policy concerning libraries and information.

Librarians' professional associations are not very popular in socialist countries. Such associations, usually of national character, may be found only in some of them. In Czekoslovakia, which consists of two republics, an organization associating librarians and people dealing with information exists only in Slovakia. Czeks' librarians organization was dismissed in 1968.

Librarians associations in socialist countries unite all the groups of librarians and people dealing with informati who act within their organizations - in special groups or in local branches. Most of those organizations unite peopl working as librarians or as information workers, Only in German Democratic Republic the organization associates institutions, not people.

Polish Librarians Association is the oldest librarians professional organization in socialist countries, and the biggest one. It was founded in 1917, even before Poland regained her independence after 123 years of partitioning Since the very beginning the organization tried to create solid grounds for library management development in newly built state structures. These efforts gave rather small result, the greatest achievement being the introduction of national regulations concerning cataloguing and the status of academic libraries and librarians. However the problem of national libraries, most important for common reading habits, hasn't been solved. The works over Library Act were interrupted by the War.

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Each fourth member of Polish Librarians Association wa killed during the II World War. At the same time a group o outstanding activists of the Association have been working on organizational principles for library management in People's Poland. They have worked out plans of protection and concetration of library collections, assumptions to th programme of librarians education and a draft document, which was passed in April 1946 as Library and Care for Collections Law. The law has established a state network of libraries supervised by Main Board of Libraries at Minist of Education. In result, already in 1948 there were 14,500 libraries in Poland, more than before the war, when Polish territory was bigger by 60 thousand square kilometers.

Polish Librarians Association took an important part in formulation of rules and implementation of library policy during the first four years after the war. The Association was the main organizer of librarians' education. Librarian were in great demand at that time. It also published numerous handbooks and was the main editor of professional periodicals.

Looking back at this period one understands that it was a very fortunate one for Polish Librarians Association.

In 1949-1955 a decrease could be noticed in social movement in all fields and activities. The same happened to our librarians' organization. The whole librarianship lost its position. In 1951 a deep disintegration of library management took place. The network of state libraries, supervised up to that time by one centre, became a sum of several, small networks of libraries, supervised by various state departments, having almost nothing in common with each oth

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Polish Librarians Association /being at that time a joint organization of librarins and archivists/ tries to draw attention to the weak sides of the new structure of library management and demanded re-establishment of strong centre coordinating the activities of the whole Polish librarianship.

After 1956, on the wave of restoring democratic liberties, Polish Librarians Association has strengthened its position a little. It has again associated only librarians.

Council of Culture and Art was created in 1957 within Ministry of Culture and Art. Department of Libraries and Reading, with the president of Polish Librarians Association as the chairman, was created within the Council. Due to this structure the president of Polish Librarins Associati was able to submit the opinions of the professional group represented by him to the Government. However this didn't have any greater influence on the state policy concerning libraries.

At the beginning of 1960-ies the Association came forward with an initiative of elaborating a Library Act. The law passed in 1946 had lost its value in the changed conditions. The initiators hoped to re-strengthen the position of librarianship and re-integrate national network of libraries.

However during the work on the new act a significant divergence of opinions could be noticed. Organs of state administration were not interested in any change and Polish Librarians Association insisted on coordination of library management.

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Representatives of the Association tried to convince particular ministries to undertake cooperation with Ministry of Culture and Art. As usual in such cases a compromise has been chosen. The Act passed on April 9th 1968 retained the division of libraries network into several independen networks, however the Act made Ministry of Culture and Art responsible for implementation of the new law, in consultation with other state departments. Ministry of Cultur and Art was also obliged to coordinate the activities of all the libraries in the country, in such fields - among others - as specialization of library collections, interlibrary exchange and lease, protection and conservation of collections, information and recording activities, normalization and rationalization of library work as well as ed cation of librarians and improvement in their qualificatio To fulfill all those tasks State Library Council was to be created within Ministry of Culture and Art. The Council co: sisting of 20 persons, including 4 delegates from Polish Librarians Association, was created in 1969.

Great hopes were set on creation of the Council to mak library management more active in social work, to strengthe the role of Ministry of Culture and Art in this field. At the beginning the hopes were justified. State Library Council has worked out a report about the state of libraries /1974/ and then a programme of library development in Poland up to 1990 /1976/. But the second document has never been accepted by the Government and remained only in the circle of librarians. In the next years the Council was divided into separate sections and lost its meaning as the body integrating Polish librarianship.

The Council's work was slowed down and finally stopped completely in 1980.

At the end of 1983, in result of insistent demands of Polish Librarians Association, Minister of Culture and Art appointed the Council once more. Since then it has been working over the programme of library development up to 2000 as well as on the amendments to the Library Act.

Does this mean new chances for re-integration of State policy concerning libraries? No, it doesn't. First of all the Government isn't interested in the result of State Library Council works and Ministry of Culture and Art isn't strong enough to carry them into effect. Let us look at an example from 1984. The suggestions accepted then by the Council, concerning academic education of librarians, were addressed to Ministry of Education and Schools of Academic Rank haven't produced any reaction.

The fact that Ministry of Culture and Art treats its responsibility for implementation of the Library Act in a very limited way is even more important cause to be pessimistic. The Ministry is really responsible only for those libraries, which are directly subordinated to it, e.g. National Library, Śląska Library in Katowice and public libraries. Recently, in result of librarians circle pressure the Ministry widened its interest onto libraries for patients in hospitals and libraries in industrial plants, run by trade unions up to 1980 and then left to themselves.

When the Teacher's Charter was passed in 1972 and amended ten years later and when the Academic Schools Act was passed in 1982 - the opinion of Ministry of Culture and Art was missing. In result the differences between

school libraries and academic libraries and above all the difference in the situation of librariens has deepened.

School librarians consider themselves rather teachers than librarians /their professional name is teacher-librarian/. In academic libraries a part of librarians is treated as researchers, and the other part - about 80 % of them all - as "other workers", similar to transport worker and... fire brigade.

The works over amendments to Academic Schools Act are going on at the moment. Polish Librarians Association has submitted its suggestions to the Parliament, however Ministry of Culture and Art hasn't shown any interest in that matter.

In 1983 - 1984, at Ministry of Culture and Art suggestion, the Parliament was working at on a bill concerning widespreading of culture. This draft led to further disintegration of libraries, because the bill was to concern only public libraries. In such situation Polish Librarians Association, whose representatives took part in parliamentary committee, focused its efforts on defence of Library Act from 1968. In result the Act about widespreading of culture, passed in April 1984, referred to public librarie and their staff only, but contained a clause stating that it doesn't break the rules of Library Act. Such resul cannot give full satisfaction, because the new Act regulates the rights and duties of librarians in public librarie in a different way than they are regulated in other networks of libraries, they have different principles of gratification and different staff policy.

The fact that Ministry of Culture and Art, out of its own initiative has worked out up to now only two regulation in consultation with Ministry of Education and Schools of Academic Rank and General Secretary of Polish Academy of Science: one in 1979 concerning specialization in library collections and the other one in 1984, concerning foreign publications having no right of circulation in Poland, shows clearly how narrowly the Ministry treats its role as coordinator of implementation of Library Act.

The whole latest Conference Of Delegates of Polish Librarians Association in May 1985 was one great call to Ministry of Culture and Art to take over the responsibility for development of the whole Polish librarianship. However the Ministry has refused.

In the present situation Polish Librarians Association wanting to integrate the whole librarianship must cooperate with many departments and state institutions as well as with political parties.

By virtue of the Library Act and also because the majority of our members are librarians from public libraries, our main partner is Ministry of Culture and Art. The more because it holds administrative supervision over Polish Librarians Association activities and subsidizes them. Apart from partiwipating in the works of the State Library Council, the Association submits to the Ministry most of its suggestions, concerning mainly the whole state network of libraries, public libraries and education of librarians The Ministry supervises secondary schools for librarians. The Association also submits to the Ministry its suggestio

concerning librarians salaries. Though according to the Library Act the salaries should be appointed by the Govern ment, those matters have always been resolved by documents of lower rank. Most often there were separate pay schedule for particular networks of libraries, always accepted by the Government. It has however happened - and is happening more and more often - that the schedule for one network is adapted by other departments for other networks. For in tance in 1984 Minister of Education and Schools of Academi Rank adapted pay schedule for librarians in public librari to the needs of librarians in academic schools, because it was more favourable for librarians than their own one.

A new pay schedule is being prepared now at the Ministr of Education and Schools of Academic Rank and will most probably be still more favourable for librarians than the schedule for public libraries.

Both the Act concerning widespreading of culture and the Act for Academic Schools provide that the salaries should be adjusted to the changing economic situation of th country, still undergoing deep devaluation.

Polish Librarians Association accept these separately carried on works on the pay schedules and even submits its ow suggestions in the matter, as librarians salaries are rather low and setting precedents makes grounds for achievin higher pay for other groups of librarians. This often give good results.

Ministry of Education and Schools of Academic Rank is Polish Librarians Association partner in the matters conce ning libraries in academic schools. The president of Polis Librarians Association is a member of Coordinative Committ

for Libraries in Schools of Academic Rank, appointed by Minister of Education in 1984. The majority of other members of the Committee are also members of the Association. Ministry of Education is also the recipient of suggestions concerning libraries in academic schools. Those problems have been neglected by the Association for a long time, because most of lecturers in academic schools for libraria were not interested in becoming members of the Association This was probably because most of them weren t librarians themselves and didn t identify themselves with that profession. Such situation have a negative influence on librarians education in academic schools and on the profile of research carried on there, often loosing touch with practical needs.

When in 1984 Managing Board of Polish Librarians Association started to organize a Division of Schools for Librarians and announced that its main goal is to bring the programmes of librarians education and research closer to practical needs, librarians showed greatest interest but schools for librarians, especially those of academic rank the least. Ministry of Education hasn t accepted wxistance of the Division and hasn t reacted in any way to any suggestions submitted by it.

The Association has hoped that National Library would become its partner in the matters of research, especially in its efforts to bring the research closer to practice and to coordinate it nationwide. National Library has its own scientific council consisting of scientists from the

whole country, it also has Institute of Book and Reading, created specially to carry on the research on librarianshi In result of several discussions, publications, even pressure exerted through Ministry of Culture and Art the Institute of Book and Reading has changed its research works in the required direction but refused to play the role of a coordinator in those matters.

The Association itself has founded a special award in the field of library science and special prizes for the best master s theses concerning librarianship. Conferment of first awards aroused great interest in the environment and may be will bring favourable changes.

Concerning the network of over 20 thousand school and pedagogical libraries the Association submits its suggestions to Ministry of Education, though its pressure isn t very strong, as the majority of school librarians hasn joined Polish Librarians Association and express their interest through Polish Teachers Association.

Disintegration of librarianship has also its consequences in management of informative activities. Polish Librarians Association was a co-initiator of creating nationwid network of information with its main centre - Centre of Scientific, Technical and Economic Information /CINTE/. For about 20 years there was a great mistrust between the libraries and informative network, especially on the part of information workers. Very few of them are members of th Association. There were efforts to create a separate organ zation during the last few years. At present however the relations have been regulated by an agreement signed in

1983, concerning cooperation with CINTE. However it must be said that most certainly this agreement will not lead to such integration of activities of libraries and scientific information centres as Polish Librarians Association would expect. On the other hand it should be noticed that successive amendments of the draft on scientific, technical and organizational information SINTO, worked out by CINTE, take into account the role of librarians to a greater degree. The latest draft,worked out in 1984 , provides that all the libraries in the country will participate in the system. This is the result of the cooperation agreemen as well as participation of the president of Polish Librarians Association in the advisory council, created in orde to manage the system. Other members of PLA joined the scie tific council of CINTE.

Cooperation with political parties is an important form of pressure exerted by Polish Librarians Association on formulation and implementation of state policy concerning librarianship and information.

The main partner in this field is Polish United worker Party, its Central Committee and local branches. Since the end of 1970-ies a Team of Party Librarians has existed at the Culture Department of Central Committee of the Party. The Team consists also of representatives of the Association and is an advisory body to the Party managers in the matters of librarianship. During the last few years, on Central Committee demand, the Team elaborated opinions about -among others - libraries in industrial plants, situation of rural libraries, staff policy in libraries.xxxx

It has also propounced an opinion about a catalogue of a typical public library, prepared by National Library. A document "The State and Directions of Development of Libraries in Poland" was prepared in 1984 by the Team of Party Librarians in cooperation with Polish Librarians Association. This document has been accepted by the Party manager as a programme of the Party policy towards librarianship up to 1990. Party members working in various state departments, among them also in the above mentioned ministries have been obliged to implement the programme. A clause stating irrational structure of library management and information activities in Poland has been included into the document on Polish Librarians Association suggestion, but the resulting practical conclusions haven t been agreed upon.

Besides participation in the works of the Team of Part Librarians, Polish Librarians Association submits to the Party managers its postulations, which in case of acceptance are sent to proper organs of State administration to be implemented. In this way the Association representatives were able to participate in various advisory groups to the Government and various ministries.

In spite of Party management understanding it hasn t been possible to improve publishing of professional librarianship literature as typography and paper industry in Poland are also under crisis.

Moreover the Party management enables the Association authorities to popularize their opinions in the press, radio and television.

The Association doesn t cooperate so closely with othe

political parties, which aren't so popular among the Association members nor so influential as Polish United Worker Party. However the representatives of Polish Librarians Association participate in congresses of other political parties, submit their suggestions concerning widespreading of books in the social circles represented by these organizations, popularize the Association opinions in their press and take part in their organizational works concerning books and reading habits.

In 1983 the Main Board of Polish Librarians Associatic undertook a very important - and very difficult at the same time - decision of joining the so called Patriotic Move ment for National Revival /PRON/. After stormy years of 1980 - 1981, after difficult months of martial law, that was a declaration of readiness for constructive cooperatic with the authorities in the matters interesting to professional organization of librarians. This also meant willing ness to participate in the initiatives undertaken by this new social movement. State authorities have attached great importance to the movement and have bestowed significant priviledges upon it. PRON became the main organizer of ele tions to people s councils and the Association, as a colle tive member of the movement gained right to offer its candidates. In result of the latest election almost 300 members of the Association sit on people s councils of variou levels. Many of them act as managers. This creates real chances of realization of many librarians expectations, especially as far as school and public libraries are conce ned. The Main Board of Polish Librarians Association orga

nizes meetings of librarians - councillors, inspiring them to act in local councils and to submit their suggestions to central authorities.

Another result of joining Patriotic Movement for Natic nal Revival is participation of Polish Librarians Association in the movement management and in its particular wor kingxgrxxp teams, dealing - among others - also with the matters of books production, its size and profile.

The Association, as a collective member of PRON has offered its candidates also to the national parliament. Up to the time of elections the Association will have been able to influence the works of Parliament through its representative in the team of experts or rather lower house of parliament called Social-Economic Council, created in 1983. Apart from that representatives of Polish Librarians Association are invited, as experts, to participate in par liamentary works over laws concerning libraries and infory mation. Joint meetings of the Association management and parliamentary Culture Committee are organized from time to time.

The Association representatives can also be found amon members of National Culture Committee, created in 1980 a a consulting body to the Government.

The Association wanted to get its allies within that group to carry cataloguing during printing and to publish books printed in large type for people with bad sight. However these ideas haven t been appreciated by editors more influential than librarians and haven t been submitte to the Government.

Academic conferences organized by Polish Librarians Association are still another form of influencing the Stat policy concerning libraries and information.

National Conference for information and documentation, organized in 1958 may be the most spectacular example. In 1960 in result of the conference the Government passed a resolution concerning development of technical and economi information in Poland. A series of conferences concerning library service of sick and disabled people may serve as an example from the last few years. Due to the conferences the problem was taken over by the Ministry of Culture and Art, which in 1984 financed a foundation of Informative-Methodical Reading Centre for Sick and Disabled.

Informative activities might also be of great significance. The Association is carrying this type of activity b publishing periodicals and bulletins. However, because of various reasons, it doesn t bring the expected effects. First of all periodicals in Poland are published with grea delay. That is why the editors don t want to publish curre information and even if it is published, it doesn t gain much interest among librarians nor in the authorities. Apart from that the contents of librarians periodicals isn t very interesing to the authorities, contrary to the situation in Soviet Union, German Democratic Republic or Czekoslovakia. One may assume that lack of the authorities interest is the main cause of the delay in publishing librarians periodicals regularly.

Information given through mass media is much more effec tive. It is proved by reactions to the interviews given by members of the Association or their articles, especially

the critical ones. However it must be admitted that the Association doesn t carry any active informative polic it rather passively awaits such possibilities.

Generally however it must be said that the Association is able to influence formation and implementation of State policy concerning libraries and information and it takes advantage of the possibilities. The effects of this influe ce are various, often insignificant. This results from lac of one institution responsible for the whole Polish librarianship and information and lack of such institution results from lack of appreciation of the role of librarianship in civilization development by the society and by the authorities. On the other hand the Association activities are not effective because of its organizational weakness. This organization, gathering over 10 thousand members, forced to cooperate with various institutions and departments responsible for libraries, may rely almost solely on its members' voluntary work. Such situation doesn't create possibilities of consistent, planned actions leading to success. Office service of the Main Board of Polish Librarians Association and its working teams of experts were strengthened only in the last two years and the first member of the Association won't be formally employed until th end of 1985 and even then it will be only a part time job.

It also seems that the Association in its hitherto existing activities hasn t taken enough advantage of similar foreign associations experiences. Agreements concernin cooperation, signed with two very active librarians organ zations in Great Britain and in German Democratic Republic

during the last few years give such opportunity to benefit from their good patterns.

The biggest hope however we have in developing the activities of Round Table of Managing Librarians Associations, which should become the forum of exchange of experiences from various types of activities of professional librarians organizations worldwide.

Polish Librarians Association has joined IFLA as one of the first its members, now - as one of the first - it has joined Round Table of IFLA, hoping that it would be able to set an example to other associations but also that it would be able to fully benefit from other associations experiences.

IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, CHICAGO

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THE LITERATURE OF LIBRARIANSHIP IN FRANCOPHONE AFRICA

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U S A

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THE LITERATURE OF LIBRARIANSHIP IN FRANCOPHONE AFRICA

It was not until after World War II that the need for professional librarians began to be recognized in West Africa. Prior to this most libraries were run by part-time, untrained staff, and information on library development in the region was limited to a few administrative reports and occasional periodical articles that stressed the growing demand for reading material. Finally in 1954 U N E S C O issued the first book length publication on African libraries. This work included a survey of existing public library service accompanied by a collection of papers presented at the four week U N E S C O seminar held in Ibadan, Nigeria. One of the recommendations fo this seminar was that "librarians working in various regions of Africa should take practical steps to form dynamic professional associations as rapidly as possible." (UNESCO,p. E8). This recommendation subsequently inspired the creation of two interafrican library associations. The first of these was the West African Library Association (WALA) whose organizing committee first met during the Ibadan conference. The following March the new association issued West African Libraries, the first library journal in the region.

A. I. D. B. A.

Although no African librarians from the French territories participated in the Ibadan Seminar, the published proceedings attracted the attention of a few individuals, including E.W.K. Dadzie, a Togolese librarian-archivist trained in Dakar. Dadzie also benefitted from a U N E S C O fellowship which enabled him to undertake a nine month study of public libraries, adult education and literacy training programs. After completing an extensive study tour in Scandinavia and Ghana, Dadzie returned to his post in Saint Louis, Senegal where he began to discuss the prospects for public library development with a few friends. At Dadzie's urging, the first library association in Francophone Africa was founded in September 1957 by a small group of librarians, archivists, teachers, civil servants and professionals. Originally created for the purpose of promoting public libraries, this organization later became lnown as the Association International pour le Développement de la Documentation des Bibliothèques et des Archives en Afrique. It is normally called by its acronym A.I.D.B.A.

Since its foundation this association has sponsored eight international conferences and a number of short seminars or institutes held in Senegal. The unpublised proceedings of these meetings offer researchers the most comprehensive view available of the early struggles that marked the development of libraries, archives and documentation centers in Africa. The mimeographed papers stored at the A.I.B.D.A.

headquarters in Dakar include informative presentations of library facilities in various countries as well as both practical and theoretical discussions of librarianship in Africa.

A brief summary of the proceedings of the first Afro-Scandinavian conference (which was jointly sponsored by A.I.D.B.A. and the Danish library association) was published in the widely read weekly, Afrique Nouvelle in November 1961. It was the intention of the A.I.D.B.A. executive committee to publish the complete proceedings of these meetings and of all subsequent conferences in a quarterly journal. Unfortunately the lack of funds for typing, mimeographing and distribution lead to the indefinite postponement of this project. In 1971 when the first issue of the Bulletin de l'A.I.D.B.A. appeared, it was given the number 8 in the hope that the materials gathered for the earlier issues might be published in the future. The 1971 issue of the Bulletin was somewhat exceptional in that it was entirely devoted to a detailed report of a 1970 study tour of French libraries organized by the association of Francophone universities (Association des Universités Partiallement ou Entièrement de Langue Française-- A.U.P.E.L.F.)

Other issues of the A.I.D.B.A. bulletin contain papers given at various meetings. The second issue (numbered 9 - 10) is devoted to the first Senegalese Book Week celebration which was held in 1972 in conjunction with International Book Year. This very interesting issue features general U N E S C O statements in both French and English accompanied by speeches of Senegalese officials including President Senghor. In addition there are several articles on books and culture in Africa and an overview of library development in Senegal written by Amadou Bousso. The most recent issue of the bulletin is a special number containing papers presented at A.I.D.B.A.'s 25th Anniversary Conference held in Dakar in December 1982. During the five day meeting participants from 14 countries discussed present and future prospects for the development of libraries, archives and information systems in Africa.This issues lacks consecutive pagination and there is no translation of the papers. However, two papers are printed in English and the editorial board includes one member from Nigeria as well as two librarians from Senegal and one from Zaire.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

A.I.D.B.A. is, in principle, an organization made up of national associations, but it also welcomes participants from countries where no national association yet exists. This is unfortunately the situation in many Francophone countries. In fact when the editors of the International Guide to Library and Information Science Associations sent inquiries to 23 African states using French as an official language, they found that just 10 countries had a national library association in 1980. Only two of these associations -one in Zaire and one in the Cameroun- had publised a newsletter or journal at that time. Although other national associations may have an interest in publishing a bulletin, most have a membership which is too small to support such an activity. One of the most vigorous of the Francophone library organizations is the Senegalese national association called the AssociationNationale des Bibliothecaires Archivistes et Documentalistes Senegalais, but generally known as A N A B A D S. Founded in 1973 by a group of librarians who wished to break away from the Senegalese branch of A.I.D.B.A., this newer organization had a membership of 60 by 1980. In 1985, after several years of intermittant activity, A N A B A D S is in the process of revival and the possibility of editing a bulletin is being seriously discussed. A N A B A D S is well situated to publish a journal because its editors could easily solicit contributions from well

qualified library directors and archivists as well as from faculty members at the regional library school known as E.B.A.D. (Ecole des Bibliothecaires Archivistes et Documentalistes). However, with its current membership dues of 2000CFA francs -approximately $4.50 - the association has very limited means to support the publication and distibution of a regular journal.

E. B. A. D.

In order to fill the gap left by the absence of any national library press in most Francophone countries, the regional library school lauched its own journal. The idea for such a publication originated with the school's former director Amadou Bousso. Bousso's frequent missions throughout the region made him acutely aware that many E.B.A.D. graduates had little opportunity to exchange ideas with colleague once they left Dakar. After seeking support for a newsletter for nearly four years, Bousso obtained a grant from the association of Francophone universities (A.U.P.E.L.F.) and in 1976 the first issue appeared of the Bulletin de Liason à l'Intention des Bibliothécaires, Archivistes et Documentalistes Africains. Known simply as B L I B A D, this publication's goal was "to alleviate the isolation of E.B.A.D. graduates" and "to strengthen the bonds of friendship and solidarity woven by two years of shared experiences at the school."

Although the first number of BLIBAD featured an article on school libraries in Senegal, the rest of the issue was devoted to news of E.B.A.D., notes from colleagues in the field and information on international organizations and upcoming conferences. This newsletter format was later abandonned, and most subsequent numbers were largely devoted to the papers and proceedings of various conferences. Issue number 3 (October 1977) contains an informative set of papers given at an interafrican symposium on the rank, status, and training of librarians. After an excellent survey of the situation in Francophone Africa by E.B.A.D. professor Henri Sene, there are shorter articles on Niger, Congo-Brazzaville, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, the Gambia,Ghana, Nigeria and Sierra Leone. There are no translations, but the issue should be considered bilingual since the last four papers are in English. Another number of B L I B A D covers a Senegalese seminar on microproduction and contains papers which are somewhat more technical in nature. The last issue to appear so far (number 6, May 1981) includes the proceedings of two conferences dealing with archives. The first half of this issue is devoted to the first conference of the West African Branch of the International Council on Archives (W A R B I C A). This is followed by a set of papers given during a national seminar on regional archives held in Kaolack, Senegal in April 1978. Although it was hoped to issue B L I B A D three times per year, its periodicity has been variable(2 numbers in 1976 , one in 1977, one in 1979, and two in 1981). Since 1981 B L I B A D has been temporarily suspended, but faculty members at the library school hope to resume its publication in the future.

Meanwhile the students themselves have taken the initiative, and this year they issued the first number of Papyrus, a mimeographed journal edited by the student association. The liveliest journal in the field, Papyrus contains poetry, jokes, word puzzles and cartoons as well as news of student activies and concerns. In addition to general interest items, the 40 page newsletter also featured two substantive articles based on papers prepared at E.B.A.D. For this first issue, one library student wrote an essay on the new world information order and an archivist preparing for a graduate degree discussed principles governing the use of archival documents. Hopefully this modest but promising venture will provide editorial experience for individuals who may later take a similar initiative when they assume professional posts in their home countries.

During the past year two international periodicals also began publication in Dakar. The first of these was issue number 3 of the new I F L A / Africa Section Newsletter which had previously been edited in Nairobi. The second 1984 publication is the West African Archivist which serves as the organ of the West African Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives (W A R B I C A). This attractively produced journal contains the proceedings of the constitutive conference of the regional branch which was held in Dakar in 1977. While it is useful to have this information in the first issue of W A R B I C A 's journal, the content largely represents a duplication of effort, since most of the papers had already been published in the May 1981 issue of of B L I B A D. Although none of the French articles in the West African Archivist have been translated , the constitution, the medium term plan, the minutes and the final report do appear in both English and French. Saliou Mbaye, the director of the Archives of Senegal, serves as managing editor and five Senegalese archivists serve as members of the editorial board. Mbaye indicated that he has prepared material for another number of the journal but does not yet have the means to publish it.

PROBLEMS AND POTENTIAL

One of the most significant landmarks in the professionalization process is the appearance of regular journals which provide a continuing link among geographically dispersed colleagues. In Francophone Africa where librarianship has only recently become recognized as a full time occupation, numerous practitioners continue to work in virtual isolation from others in the field. Although certain Francophone countries still have too few librarians to maintain a viable national association, various international organizations have attempted to provide channels for professional communication by sponsoring regional conferences and publishing journals which are often devoted to the papers given at these meetings. However, even though all the journals discussed above have been locally edited and printed, most issues reflect a considerable time lag between the date when the papers were presented and the actual date of publication. This delay was over three years in the case of one issue of B L I B A D while in the case of the West African Archivist seven years had elapsed before the proceedings of the first conference were actually published.

Because of the recurring difficulties African editors face in obtaining funds to print and distribute each issue, most of these publications function as journals of record rather than providing a timely forum for the discussion of new developments or current issues. Furthermore, the fact that the few journals which do exist have been issued so infrequently means that there is almost no access to the small but growing body of research literature produced over the past decade. These studies include over one hundred mémoires on African libraries prepared by at the French National Graduate School for Librarians (Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Bibliothèques or E.N.S.B.). African students entering this school are encouraged to do their research on library development in their home countries, and they are urged to pick a topic in advance so that they can gather the appropriate documentation before coming to France. Mémoires prepared by these students range from 20 to 30 essays on broad topics such as the book in Francophone Africa, to detailed, well documented studies such as the 134 page paper by Wersey Tete on the history of colonial libraries in the Belgian Congo from 1888 to 1959. Drawing on archival sources and interviews in Belgium as well as copies of documents from Zaire, Tete's study provides the first historical analysis of library development in Central Africa and therefore deserves much wider dissemination.

In additon to the mémoires deposited in France, there are now approximately 20 mémoires produced by the first two classes of graduate students enrolled in the advanced degree program (2e cycle) at E.B.A.D. Some of these mémoires are also well documented studies based on original research. One example which deserves special notice is an excellent 98 page paper by Oumou Ly on publishing, printing and book distribution in Senegal. A few studies have also been produced abroad by doctoral candidates. In the United States two dissertations have dealt with library education and library development in Senegal. Although France has no doctoral programs in librarianship, a dissertation on public libraries and cultural centers in West Africa was presented at the University of Bordeaux by Fanny Lalande Isnard whose research was enriched by her many years of work experience in the region.

A few monographs based on research conducted with aid from U N E S C O have actually been publised by E.B.A.D. One of the earliest and most interesting of these is a study by Omar Diop who surveyed recent graduates of the University of Dakar in order to determine their ability to use bibliographic resources relevant to their field or profession. Unfortunately even useful studies such as this have limited distribution in Africa and visits to several Francophone countries clearly revealed that most practitioners have little knowledge of the actual state of library development elsewhere in the region.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In 1970, just a decade and a half ago, no library journal had been published in Francophone Africa, research literature was virtually nonexistent. and fewer than a dozen Africans had had the opportunity for advanced training abroad. Today the pool of authors with graduate degrees has increased considerably, and a small body of relevant but unpublished research literature has come into existence. Unfortunately none of the national or interafrican associations located in the region has been capable of producing an ongoing, regular journal which could report this recent research. While not every thesis or mémoire would merit publication in its entirety, a journal which could offer abstracts of all these studies and could publish more lengthly articles drawn from the most significant papers would make a real contribution to the development of librarianship in Africa.

Being firmly convinced that such a journal is a necessity rather than a luxury, I would like to take this opportunity to offer some unsolicited recommendations addressed to both interafrican and international associations. U N E S C O and I F L A have already offered their assistance through the sponsorship of seminars and workshops for editors. While such meetings can provide a good opportunity for African editors to learn essential skills and exchange experiences, it must be stressed that what is most desperately needed needed in Francophone Africa is the funding to produce the journal itself. Individuals who have or can develop editorial skills exist,and capable authors exist, but the price of paper, printing and mailing stands between these individuals and their potential audience. A modest amount of financial aid and technical assistance from an international organization (or perhaps from a foreign publisher) could support several years' cost of a quarterly publication. Such an investment would be a solid contribution to the advancement of African librarianship.

I would like to emphasize here that virtually all library periodicals experience financial difficulties because of their limited audience. Even our oldest continuously published periodical, Library Journal, announced its intention to cease publication in June 1880 after is first four unprofitable years. Fortunately this announcement produced promises of support enabling the journal to become self sufficient

by 1881. (Danton, p. 169) It is naturally more difficult for such a publication to eventually become self-supporting in Africa where the library market is too small to attract advertisers, where currency exchange problems militate against the free flow of information within the continent, and where professionals have little discretionary income for personal subscriptions. While it is indeed difficult to overcome these obstacles, one step toward financial self-sufficiency might be taken if wider distribution could be achieved internationally. I F L A and other international organizations should encourage member institutions to subscribe to Third World journals as a means of supporting the efforts of colleagues while at the same time facilitationg the broader exchange of information within the field. Both financial contributions and subscriptions might also be solicited from library association members in developed countries.

While such support from abroad might stimulate the development of the library press in Africa, the relevance and significance of its content naturally depends on the number and quality of local contributors. Because the present talent pool is still relatively small, I would strongly recommend that the interafrican library association (A.I.D.B.A.) and the regional library school (E.B.A.D.) combine their efforts and funds to produce <u>one regular, high quality journal.</u> In addition, E.B.A.D. and A.I.D.B.A. might consider collaborating in the publication of a more modest bi-monthly newsletter which would bring togather news from various countries. Such items might include reports on library legislation grants in aid, appointments and promotions as well as national and international conferences.

There have already been some cooperative library newsletters which attempt to cut across linguist barriers as well as national boundries. Those serials issued by regional branches of international associations have provided opportunities for fruitful exchange between Anglophone and Francophone countries which have rather different traditions of librarianship. While this kind of cross fertilization can be very beneficial, editors often face the problem that articles from Francophone Africa become somewhat buried in regional journals which also draw their contribuors from English speaking countries where there is a much larger pool of potential authors. This phenomenon has been observed in the social sciences in general, and in March 1985 Azzi Ly, who edits the publications of the Council for the Development of Economic and Social Research in Africa commented that out of 482 manuscripts he had receiv since 1981, only 40 to 50 submissions were in French. Ly attributes this disparity to the greater number of research institutes and universities in the Anglophone states, where considerable emphasis is placed on research and publishing as criteria for advance ment. In librarianship Francophone countries are also at a disadvantage having fewer libraries and within these libraries, fewer librarians trained at the graduate level. This was dramatically illustrated in Amadou Bousso's 1978 survey of university libraries in 22 Francophone states. Of the 1026 persons employed in these libraries, Bousso found that only 98 (9.5%) had university degrees, and , of these individuals, just 46 (4.5% of the total) also had formal training in librarianship. In addition, 50 individuals with secondary school diplomas had attended a library school -- making a total of only 96 employees with any formal training in librarianship. (Bousso, p.6). While this situation has undoubtedly improved since 1978, the fact remains that the number of trained librarians and consequently, the number of library association members is far greater in Anglophone countries. In 1980 the Nigerian Library Association alone had over 500 members--a total which may in fact equal the entire membership of all the Francophone library associations in West Africa.

One specialized, panafrican association, the Standing Conference of African University Libraries (S C A U L) has been quite sensitive to the problems discussed above. Since its creation in 1965 S C A U L has made an ongoing attempt to include contributions from Francophone Africa. Despite these efforts, the majority of articles in its newsletter have in fact been in English. The problem of making its publication accessible to the entire membership also concerned leaders of the Western Area Conference of S C A U L (S C A U L W A), and this group, which was founded in 1972, has attempted to publish French and English versions of all the papers presented at its meetings. Such efforts deserve to be encouraged, since they can provide an important step toward increasing south-south communication within the field. I was also pleased to note that the IFLA Newsletter for the Africa Section is now being jointly edited by a bilingual team of colleagues--Raphaël Ndiaye from Senegal and Sally N'Jie from the Gambia. In the editorial section Ndiaye sates that "in order to strike a balance the contents of the Newsletter will be partly in French and partly in English. Important information will be translated in the two languages."

The format of the I F L A - Africa Section Newsletter also offers a model worth copying by other associations. The attractive two color cover sheet with the I F L A logo makes the publication distinctive, while the mimeographed text enables it to be produced inexpensively. Because funding for library periodicals in Africa is always precarious, emphasis should be placed on content, timeliness, and wide distribution, not on external appearance. While a journal printed by off-set on glossy paper may lend an air of respectability and prestige to the profession, this aspect is far less important than the publication of substantive, timely articles, even if these have to be mimeographed or printed on less expensive paper. I was quite disappointed to learn that one journal had temporarily suspended publication partly because it could no longer be professionally printed as in the past.

The vitality of the library press in any country or region is shown not by the quality of its design, layout, or typography, but in its ability to provide a forum for the most creative and dynamic members of the profession. It is through the vision, knowledge, and technical expertise of such individuals that librarianship can assume its proper role in national development. Without a nascent but vocal prefessional press in the United States during the last quarter of the 19th century, the ideas and practices introduced by library pioneers like Melvil Dewey and Charles Ammi Cutter might have remained isolated experiments rather than providing a catalyst for continuing progress in the field. Today when library service in Francophone Africa is still in a formative, pioneering stage, it is essential to support regular, professional journals which can serve as a vehicle for the development of a new type of librarianship capable of addressing the evolving needs of African users.

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Universal availability of non-book materials in Australia

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Introduction

It is appropriate that we should address the universal availability of non-book materials at this 51st Council and General Conference of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions since its theme is "Libraries and the Universal Availability of Information". In this paper I am going to address some of the issues associated with the availability of non-book materials in Australia. In doing so I hope to complement Dr Maurice Line's paper which will deal in more general terms with the universal availability of non-book materials.

There is widespread recognition in Australia of the importance of non-book materials as sources of information and few libraries would exclude them from their collections. For most Australians, television and radio provide major sources of information and it is inevitable that they use video recordings, sound recordings and other non-book materials as sources of information. It is estimated that fifty percent of Australian homes now have a video recorder and there would not be many homes without an audio-cassette recorder. There are few Australians below the age of 30 who have ever known a world without television, films, sound recordings and other products of audiovisual technology. Many of their impressions about government, the ways in which they should behave, the types of home life they should experience and the geography and society of other countries are influenced substantially by information they gain from non-book materials.

The importance of non-book materials as sources of information for serious research purposes has become widely acknowledged. A recent workshop on research use of audiovisual materials conducted by the Audiovisual Services Committee of the Library Association of Australia in Sydney created considerable interest amongst librarians and others involved in development and use of substantial collections of non-book materials.

The term "non-book materials"is widely used officially in Australia and the following definition adopted by the Library Association of Australia indicates the media encompassed.

> Non-book materials, sometimes referred to as audiovisual or AV materials, include sound, and/or visual materials and machine-readable data files 'fixed in any tangible medium of expression, now known or later developed, from which they can be perceived, reproduced, or otherwise communicated, either directly or with the aid of a machine or device. Such materials include amongst others the following - art original; chart; diorama; filmstrip; flash card; game; globe; kit; machine-readable data file; map; microform, eg apeture card, microfiche, microfilm and micro-opaque; picture, eg art print, photograph and poster; realia; slide; sound recording; technical drawing; transparency; video recording'.

While the extent and nature of nonbook collections in individual libraries is difficult to determine with certainty, the results of the census of library services undertaken in 1979 and 1982 by the Australian Advisory Council on Bibliographic Services[1] shows a significant growth in the nonbook collections at participating libraries in that period. Table 1 indicates the extent of growth that occurred in respect of selected media.

Table 1

Medium	1972	1982	% Increase
Sound recordings	1,129,948	1,668,785	47.6
Motion pictures	123,728	157,890	27.6
Video recordings	43,994	88,945	102
Kits	51,416	117,516	128
Maps	837,530	1,554,986	85.6
Pictures	3,364,204	4,498,771	33.7

Although Australian libraries have quite extensive collections of non-book materials, their availability to users is relatively limited and within the context of the concept of universal availability of publications (UAP) there are significant deficiencies.

Vickers has succinctly defined the objective of UAP as "the widest possible availability of publications to intending users, wherever and whenever they need (them), as an essential element in economic, social, educational and personal development."[2] While the extensive literature relating to UAP is generally directed to print materials the concept is clearly intended to apply to non-book materials as well.

UAP has not featured widely in the literature of librarianship in Australia and where it has, it is usually in the context of inter-lending.[3] Certainly the relationship of UAP to non-book materials has not yet been the subject of publications in Australia. Thus in preparing this paper I have necessarily had to appraise the situation in respect of the availability of non-book materials in Australia in terms of the main principles of UAP.

A review of the literature of UAP suggests that its principal elements are publication, supply, acquisition, bibliographic organisation,retention and inter-lending. In the paper I shall consider each of those principles in turn as they apply in Australia.

Publication

Consideration of the universal availability of non-book materials clearly begins at the point of production and publication, as the availability of materials depends on the activities of producers and publishers. Non-book materials tend to fall into three categories, those commercially published and available for purchase or hire either directly from the publisher or

from distributors and other suppliers, those privately produced by organisations such as departments of education, universities and colleges and made available either for sale or on loan, and those broadcast by television or radio.

Materials in the last category cannot be overlooked when considering the development of non-book collections for often they contain unique sources of information such as interviews, performances and documentaries. While some broadcast materials are subsequently commercially available, others are not.

In Australia the principal source of information on commercially available non-book materials is Australian audiovisual reference book[4] which is published annually. It lists all non-book materials, regardless of medium, which producers, publishers and distributors have notified as being available for sale. Entries are included for materials published in Australia and those published overseas and readily available in Australia. While Australian audiovisual reference book attempts to report Australian materials comprehensively, the total output of Australian produced non-book materials is uncertain. Publishers of non-book materials are not as well organised as book publishers and some do not take advantage of the opportunity to have their publication listed in Australian audiovisual reference book. Thus, there is limited awareness of the total range of non-book materials published in Australia.

The absence of legislation requiring the legal deposit of all non-book materials in the National Library of Australia reduces further the possibility of comprehensive awareness of Australian non-book publications. There is clearly a need for a survey such as that done by Miller [5] in the United Kingdom, to be undertaken in Australia to identify all producers and publishers of non-book material in each of the three categories indicated previously and the extent of publishing activities of each. This

would at least provide an indication of the extent of non-book publishing in Australia.

Experience has shown that some of the smaller enterprises engaged in producing non-book materials lack basic marketing skills required to supply their materials efficiently to libraries and other purchasers. UAP of non-book materials in Australia will to some extent depend upon libraries encouraging publishers to publicise more widely the materials they produce and to adopt efficient marketing procedures.

Acquisition

There is no national policy in Australia for the co-ordinated development of comprehensive collections of non-book materials by libraries. Neither is there such a policy for print materials. The absence of such a national policy, with consequent acceptance of responsibilities by particular libraries, has resulted in unplanned and unco-ordinated acquisition of non-book materials of both Australian and overseas origin. Furthermore, while there are guides [6] to motion picture and pictorial collections in Australia, there is no comprehensive record of Australia's collections of non-book materials indicating their location, scope and accessibility.

In the absence of a national policy for collection development, the availability of a comprehensive record of the iniatives taken by individual libraries in developing non-book collections is vital for the researcher attempting to locate sources of particular non-book materials. The need for such a record has been recognised by the Audiovisual Services Committee of the Library Association of Australia and plans are in hand for the preparation and publication of such a document. To be titled Researcher's

guide to audiovisual materials, the publication will provide information about the location, scope, organisation and accessibility of specific collections of audiovisual primary source materials.

Although the National Library of Australia has exercised an important leadership role in the provision of non-book materials and while its selection policy[7] recommends the acquisition of appropriate items for the library's collection regardless of their format, it is not involved in comprehensively collecting all forms of non-book materials. The lack of appropriate legal deposit provisions hinders and makes increasingly expensive the acquisition of non-book materials by the National Library of Australia. Until recently the Library has attempted to develop a comprehensive collection of Australian sound recordings, motion pictures and video recordings. However, both the National Film Archive and the major part of the sound recording collection were transferred to the National Film and Sound Archive when that was established as a separate authority in April 1984.

In considering the development of a comprehensive collection of Australian non-book materials, the issue of legal deposit must be addressed. Section 201 of the Australian Copyright Act provides for the deposit of Australian publications in the National Library of Australia. With the exception of maps, plans and charts, non-book materials are exempt from the provisions of the Act. Each Australian state has its own legislation providing for the deposit in the relevant state library of copies of materials published in the state. With the exception of Tasmania, where gramophone records and films are subject to legal deposit, the state acts are restricted basically to print materials.

Deposit legislation provides no guarantee that comprehensive collections of Australian non-book materials will be developed but it can do much to

contribute to that aim. The effectiveness of the legislation depends in no small measure on the efficiency and tenacity of the National Library in identifying producers and publishers and claiming works produced.

In its submission to the Commonwealth Attorney-General in December 1981 in relation to a review of the copyright law as it effects audiovisual materials undertaken by the Attorney-General's Department, the National Library of Australia proposed that Section 201 of the Copyright Act be amended to require deposit in the National Library of one copy of every sound recording, audiovisual production and videogram published or produced in Australia at the publisher's expense, deposit of one preservation copy of every film or television production forming part of the national production of Australia on cost-reimbursement to the publisher by the National Library, and to provide the right to the National Library to record off-air for preservation or reference purposes any television or sound broadcast within Australia. To date there have been no amendments to the Copyright Act to provide for increased legal deposit requirements as proposed by the National Library.

In the area of acquisition of video cassette editions of motion pictures a new problem has recently arisen in Australia. At least one major distributor of such materials has refused to sell to libraries, apparently on the grounds that as libraries lend video cassettes without charge to users the markets of commercial video rental outlets may be adversely affected. When distributors refuse to sell their materials to libraries, the possibility of achieving UAP is significantly reduced.

It was noted earlier that much of the material broadcast in Australia by radio or television is not available for sale. Under the provisions of the Australian Copyright Act, libraries are not permitted to record television or radio broadcasts off-air without permission of the copyright owner except

in very limited circumstances. The difficulties of obtaining permission to record broadcasts is well documented. The matter has been the subject of several submissions[8] from library interests since the Attorney-General instituted an official review of the Copyright Act as it relates to audio-visual materials in 1981. A simpler and more efficient system is required for the recording of television and radio broadcasts by libraries which meets their reasonable needs and provides adequate protection and remuneration, where appropriate, to copyright owners.

The acquisition of non-book materials published overseas is hindered by their increasing cost brought about by considerable fluctuations in the exchange rate of the Australian dollar and the imposition of high customs duties on imported audiotapes and video recordings. The duty, introduced originally to protect the small home industry involved in the production of audiotapes and video tapes from the import of very cheap blank tapes from other countries, has been applied to imported recorded materials also. The matter was the subject of a government review and a reduction in the duty was agreed to. Duties are also payable in respect of some other non-book materials hindering their availability. Customs duties, quotas and currency controls hamper the purchase of non-book materials from overseas sources. The Unesco Agreement for facilitating the international circulation of visual and auditory materials of an educational, scientific and cultural character (the Beirut Agreement)[9] of 1948 was a positive step forward in improving the universal availability of non-book materials. The agreement is designed to facilitate the movement from country to country of visual and auditory materials designed to serve the interests of education, science and culture by exempting them from customs duties, quantitative restrictions and import licences. Unfortunately, Australia is not a signatory to the agreement.

The application of censorship laws in Australia can also hinder the

acquisition of non-book materials by libraries. This is particularly so in the case of materials being purchased from overseas. Virtually all video recordings and motion pictures imported into Australia are subjected to close inspection by censorship authorities often causing lengthy delays. While all libraries are subject to decisions made by the Commonwealth Film Censorship Board in relation to the purchase and availability to users of video recordings and motion pictures, there is a reasonable case to be made that materials which are denied a rating and are therefore not to be made available to the public should none-the-less be available in the collections of specific libraries for the purpose of serious and regulated study and research by authorised professional persons.

Development of comprehensive collections of non-book materials as envisaged in the principles of UAP is not likely in Australia in the near future. The need for co-operation in collection development to ensure comprehensiveness, rationalisation and avoidance of unnecessary duplication has long been recognised in Australia in respect of print materials. Organisations such as the Australian Advisory Council on Bibliographical Services, the Committee of Australian University Librarians and the Association of Librarians of Colleges of Advanced Education have wrestled with the problem, without marked success. Bryan[10] and Wainwright[11] document in particular the co-operative efforts of academic libraries. In considering the desirability of national co-operative plans for collection development, there is a tendency often to overlook the difficulties faced by libraries of autonomous institutions meeting their organisations' requirements while at the same time those of the nation. The system of government operating in Australia also hinders the development of national policies for collection development. Each of the six states and the Northern Territory is self-governing with their governments having responsibility for or considerable control over the provision and funding of state, public and school libraries. States rights

is a very real issue and this is reflected in the problems experienced in getting the various governments to agree to common policies on many issues.

The Australian Libraries and Information Council,[12] which was established jointly in 1981 by the Commonwealth and State ministers with responsibilities for cultural affairs and the arts, has developed a national information policy which is due for release shortly. The extent to which it will address matters associated with the availability of non-book materials is as yet unknown.

In summary Australia's collections of non-book materials, although extensive, are widely distributed amongst the National Library of Australia, the National Film and Sound Archive, state libraries, state film libraries, libraries of the Australian Broadcasting Commission and major television and radio stations, public libraries, university, college, school and special libraries. The development of non-book collections is quite unco-ordinated. There is no single comprehensive collection of Australian non-book materials and no comprehensive record of the collection development policies, specialisations and access arrangements of libraries with significant collections of non-book materials.

Bibliographic Organisation

Because the National Library of Australia is not involved in the comprehensive collection of all forms of non-book materials produced in Australia, there is no comprehensive bibliographic record of those materials. The lack of such a record hampers the identification of materials for acquisition by individual libraries.

The National Library of Australia is responsible for the production of the

Australian national bibliographic record which comprises three principal publications, Australian National Bibliography, Australian films and Australian maps. Australian films is now the responsibility of the National Film and Sound Archive. Australian National Bibliography is principally concerned with print materials but includes non-book materials which accompany print materials and in some cases non-book materials which do not readily fit into Australian films or Australian maps. The lack of legal deposit provisions referred to earlier hinders the development of a comprehensive bibliographic record of Australian non-book materials.

The development of union catalogues of library holdings has always been attractive to Australian librarians, probably as a response to their inability to agree on a national collection development policy. The recent history of non-book materials in Australian libraries is studded with examples of union catalogues which have been established and subsequently expired. The National Union Catalogue of Audiovisual Materials [13] is one example.

Begun in March 1977 with funds granted by the Technical and Further Education Council of the Tertiary Education Commission, the National Union Catalogue of Audiovisual Materials provided a listing of audiovisual materials held and produced by technical and further education colleges in Australia. It was subsequently extended to include audiovisual materials produced by colleges of advanced education and universities. When grants for its production ran out, it proved impossible to sustain its production through subscriptions and it ceased about 1981.

Perhaps the most promising development to date in respect of the bibliographic organisation of non-book materials in Australia is the Australian Bibliographic Network (ABN). [14] This is an automated national bibliographic service based on a co-operative on-line shared cataloguing facility.

Included in ABN's objectives are the development of a comprehensive national data base of machine readable records for all types of library materials including non-book materials and provision of an inquiry system permitting the widest possible access to the data base.

Inclusion of non-book materials on the data base began in July 1983 and since that time a significant number of records for non-book materials held in participating libraries has been included. By January 1985 some 80 libraries, including a number known to have major collections of non-book materials, were participating in ABN. Records for a wide range of media have been created including maps, sound recordings, video recordings, motion pictures, slides, pictures, kits and realia. The on-line inquiry service available provides information on the location of items leading to improved inter-lending and the avoidance of unnecessary duplication in the acquisition of materials, thus assisting collection rationalisation and development. ABN provides in effect a union catalogue of the holdings of all participating libraries.

Retention

The continuing availability of materials depends significantly upon the policies and procedures adopted by libraries for retention. Some libraries such as the National Library of Australia and the state libraries assume responsibility for retaining all materials acquired. Others adopt selective retention policies so that materials which are identified as being no longer of interest to users may be disposed of.

The need to weed library collections of materials no longer used has been highlighted by inadequate accommodation. This is particularly so in many of Australia's university and college libraries where accommodation is at a premium.

As materials are withdrawn from library collections it is important that

they be accepted by a library with a policy of permanent retention. As Vickers and Line point out, a measure of performance of a national system of UAP is "the ability to retain within the total system for future needs at least one copy of materials acquired by individual libraries."[15] Line has commented, "Unless there is some provision for ensuring that last copies are not disposed of, availability can actually decline." [16]

Ensuring non-book materials remain in good condition for future use involves their storage in suitable conditions. Appropriate temperature, humidity and light controls are necessary in the case of some types of non-book materials if they are to remain in a useable condition over a long period of time. The provision of suitable storage conditions is essential in those libraries fulfilling a role as national repositories.

Non-book material formats tend to become obsolete as new technologies are developed and to ensure access to materials in obsolete formats, programmes of transferring such materials to contemporary formats are essential. One has to look no further than sound recordings on cylinders, motion pictures on standard 8mm film and video recordings in cartridges to recognise the problem of obsolete formats.

Because Australia's collections of non-book materials are so widely distributed amongst a great many libraries, many of which do not permanently retain materials, it is essential that libraries with responsibility and resources to receive, process and retain materials culled from collections of contributing libraries be identified. With the exception of the National Film and Sound Archive which will accept Australian motion pictures and sound recordings for inclusion and retention in its collection, there is no defined responsibility for any other library to accept and retain unique non-book materials culled from the collections of libraries.

Inter-lending

Clearly, the next step in the process of establishing an effective programme for the universal availability of non-book materials in Australia is the creation and operation of an effective and efficient system of inter-lending. In Australia where no single library or group of libraries is responsible for the co-ordinated development of non-book material collections, an efficient inter-lending system is virtually unattainable without substantial reform of the existing "system" of unco-ordinated decentralisation.

Inter-lending of non-book materials in Australia is, as far as one can tell, still in its infancy. The number of inter-library loans of non-book materials in Australia is very small compared with that of print materials. No data is readily available on international inter-lending. This is surely due in no small measure to the wide distribution amongst so many libraries of the nation's non-book collections, to a lack of information on their location and strengths, and to the inefficiency of the inter-lending system. Undoubtedly the Australian Bibliographic Network will have a substantial impact on inter-lending of non-book materials as more libraries become members of the network and more records are included in the data base, thus assisting in the task of locating items.

Inter-lending of non-book materials in Australia is governed by the Australian inter-library loan code[17] published by the Australian Advisory Council on Bibliographical Services. Part B of the code is devoted to non-book materials and was developed by the Audiovisual Services Committee of the Library Association of Australia. Part B is currently being reviewed to ensure it reflects the existing and anticipated needs of libraries. The IFLA rules for international lending, "International lending: principles and guidelines for procedure"[18], were carefully considered when Part B was developed.

The willingness of libraries to make materials available on loan to other libraries is conditioned by -

Their ability to send copies rather than originals particularly when an original is unique or of considerable monetary value;

The reliability of the postal and other transport services;

The packaging used to enclose an item of non-book material and its ability to protect the contents during transit;

The demand for an item at the home library by its own users;

and

The ability to recoup the cost of the transaction.

The existing provisions of the Australian Copyright Act preclude the copying of sound recordings, video recordings and motion pictures to make them available to another library although recent amendments to the Act now permit copies of other non-book materials to be made under certain conditions for supply to other libraries. Amendment of the Act to provide for copying of sound recordings, video recordings and motion pictures for the purposes of inter-lending is necessary particularly for libraries charged with developing archival collections. Amendments might permit libraries to make a loan copy of items of special significance or a copy to be provided to another library for permanent retention thus ensuring the preservation of the original.

The availability of new communications technologies may provide means of making non-book materials available to other libraries without the original having to be sent and at the same time speeding up the process of transmission. Several experiments have already been undertaken in Australia and more are planned when AUSSAT, the Australian satellite system, is launched later in 1985. In Western Australia video recordings are being successfully distributed by broadcast television from a central facility to the libraries of remote schools where they are recorded and retained for use.

Transport of non-book materials, which, because of their size, are often not sent by post, poses problems in Australia. The effects of heat and humidity on non-book materials can be very damaging. Much of Australia experiences high temperatures throughout most of the year and special precautions must be taken to avoid damage to materials during transit. To encourage producers and publishers to package non-book materials suitably for library use, including inter-lending, the Library Association of Australia has published a series of guidelines for packaging non-book materials [19] which it has distributed to all known publishers and distributors of non-book materials in Australia.

Because of the processing involved in preparing many items of non-book materials for despatch on inter-library loan, costs can be substantial for the lending library. At present the inter-library loan voucher system available in Australia does not apply to non-book loans. A few libraries have instituted charges for loans of non-book materials but this is not a universal practice. It is only fair that providing libraries involved in inter-lending of non-book materials be able to recover the costs of loans particularly for packaging and transport. Extension of the existing voucher system to non-book materials is desirable.

Making non-book materials available to users through inter-lending assumes the user will have access to appropriate equipment when this is needed to access the information stored on the material. Receiving libraries should have standard audiovisual equipment available or assist users to gain access to equipment held by other organisations. Special provision may have to be made to cater for the physically handicapped and house-bound.

Proposals for Action

The most pressing requirement for achieving an improvement in the

availability of non-book materials in Australia is the development and implementation of a national integrated system for acquisition, bibliographic organisation, retention and supply. Such a system simply does not exist in Australia at present. The development of an efficient system will depend upon the National Library of Australia alone or jointly with a small number of other libraries, each with clearly defined areas of national responsibility, developing a comprehensive collection of all non-book materials published in Australia and a significant proportion of those published overseas reflecting the identified needs of users. The 1984 Document Delivery Summit held in Canberra stated "that the importance of systematic, rational development of the total national collection as held in the National Library and other libraries cannot be overemphasised." (20) It may be that the most appropriate avenue for developing a national plan would be the Australian Libraries and Information Council which, because of its close association with Ministers responsible for the provision of library services, may be able to obtain the consent and support of governments for implementing such a plan.

Action is required to ascertain with reasonable precision the extent of non-book publishing in Australia. Planning for the development of a comprehensive collection of Australian non-book materials and their bibliographic organisation is difficult without a clear understanding of the nature and size of the national production effort.

The current omission of many non-book materials published in Australia from the national bibliographic record is entirely unsatisfactory. It hampers research involving non-book materials and it hinders libraries attempting to identify non-book materials for selection and acquisition. As a matter of urgency the National Library of Australia should entend its coverage of Australian publications in the national bibliographic record to include all non-book materials published in Australia.

The development of a comprehensive national collection of Australian non-book materials is hampered by the lack of appropriate deposit legislation. Library interests should strongly lobby the Commonwealth Attorney-General to have the Copyright Act amended to extend its legal deposit provisions to all forms of non-book materials.

The inadequacies of the Copyright Act extend beyond legal deposit provisions. The present law was developed at a time prior to the availability of modern audiovisual technology and does not cater for what has become the normal use of non-book materials by individuals, libraries and educational institutions. The Act requires amendment to meet the legitimate needs of libraries to provide users with reasonable access to non-book materials.

The development of the Australian Bibliographic Network has been a significant step forward in improving the availability of non-book materials. All libraries, archives and similar institutions with significant collections of non-book materials should be strongly encouraged to become participants in ABN and to include records of all items in the collections in the data base.

As part of the plan for developing a national integrated system referred to earlier, provision must be made for those libraries to be identified which will act as national repositories accepting for permanent retention and storage under appropriate conditions, those items culled from the collections of other libraries, so that at least one copy of all material acquired by all libraries is retained in Australia for future use.

While improvements in inter-lending of non-book materials will depend largely upon the implementation of a national system for acquisition bibliographic organisation and retention, some improvements in the current system could be effected through the introduction of payments to lending

libraries for all inter-lending transactions. The inability of libraries to recover costs of processing inter-lending requests for non-book materials must surely be a disincentive to many of them to make their collections more widely available and respond more rapidly to requests for loans.

Conclusion

In this paper I have dealt only in passing with a number of issues associated with the application of the principles of UAP to non-book materials in Australia. Matters like providing access to a significant proportion of non-book materials produced overseas and international inter-lending have received scant attention reflecting the difficulties of achieving what I perceive to be the most basic aspects of UAP.

There are extensive collections of non-book materials in Australian libraries. Non-book materials are widely recognised as valuable information resources. The challenge now lies before us to improve systematically the scope, organisation and accessibility of non-book collections in Australia through the development and implementation of a national plan for their acquisition, organisation and supply to users.

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UAP and Audiovisual Materials

by

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UAP AND AUDIOVISUAL MATERIALS

Maurice B Line

Introduction

UAP - Universal Availability of Publications - is by now well documented(1,2), and I do not need to do more than give a brief outline of its nature and history to date. The concept was enunciated at IFLA's General Conference in 1973; it was directly stimulated by UBC, which IFLA had inaugurated a year or two earlier, on the grounds that bibliographic control must be accompanied by access to the publications themselves if it is not to be frustrating. UAP evolved into a programme, with an office attached to the British Library Lending Division, and was adopted by Unesco as well as IFLA. A series of research projects was undertaken, some by the office and some by outside researchers on contract, into the main aspects of availability - commercial book supply(3), acquisition(4), interlending (national(5) and international(6)), retention for future availability(7) - and a pilot study was carried out into availability in two developing countries(8). at the same time, a lot of work was put into publicizing UAP - with some success, to judge from the fact that over 100 articles have appeared in the professional journals of countries in all five continents(9), and several conferences and seminars relating to UAP have taken place. A key event was a Unesco/IFLA International Congress on UAP, held at Paris in 1982 and attended by 178 people from 64 countries(10). The Main Working Document for the congress was developed into a basic text on UAP(1), and the research and thinking were synthesized in two later publications: guidelines for countries in planning national availability(11), and a set of alternative model national plans integrating acquisitions, interlending and retention(12). The most recently published report is concerned with the implications of new technology for availability(13).

Funding for the programme has come mainly from Unesco, from several national libraries, and from bodies such as the US National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, the Council on Library Resources and the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (which has been exceptionally generous). The total money spent has however been very small; none of the research projects has cost more than £7,250, and most of the work has been done by the full-time Programme Officer at the British Library Lending Division, and myself as Director of the programme.

The concept of UAP is breathtakingly simple and broad. UAP has the objective that any publication, in whatever form and of whatever date, should be available to anyone, whenever and wherever it is needed. This ideal is of course unattainable, but the present situation needs to be vastly improved in almost every country in the world. It is a fact of life that many people fail for much of the time to obtain what publications they want when they want them - but it is not an unalterable fact of life, as is clear from the great differences between

countries at similar stages of development. A crusade to change the attitude of passive acceptance of the undesirable, and to show how matters can be improved, is more than justified. Nevertheless, the breadth of the concept of UAP has evidently made it more difficult to grasp than UBC - every librarian can understand the need for increased coverage and standardization of cataloguing; and it is certainly harder to act upon, because it requires concerted action at a national level to achieve much result.

Inevitably for a far-reaching programme scarcely ten years old, little in the way of tangible results can yet be seen. What can be said is that a few national plans are beginning to show awareness of the need for availability, and librarians in several countries have realized that they can use UAP as a peg on which to hang their aspirations and initiatives. My hope is that the concept will gradually penetrate thinking until it becomes automatic for all national information plans to provide for availability, and countries vie with one another to achieve a more satisfactory performance. Just as national bibliographic control is seen as an essential and major element in the whole structure of librarianship, national availability will increasingly be seen likewise.

The breadth of UAP was mentioned. It covers all activities, from publication through distribution and library access to use; all kinds of library, from national through academic and public to special and school libraries; all library functions, from acquisition through interlending to retention for the future; and all forms of publication, from books and journals through so-called 'grey literature' to audiovisual materials. Inevitably work to date has been concentrated on national, academic and public libraries, and on books and journals. There is an immense amount to be done in these 'mainstream' areas, where the needs are most visible and improvements will have the greatest effect. This has meant that other aspects have received relatively little attention: for example, publishing, school libraries, industrial libraries, and of course audiovisual materials. This is certainly not due to indifference: money has not been available to commission special studies, and neither the Programme Officer nor myself claims expertise in most special areas, among them audiovisual materials. Our hope was that Sections and Round Tables of IFLA would take up the challenge to explore in more depth their own fields of interest in relation to UAP, but this has been slow to happen. Those few who have made efforts to look at the availability of audiovisual materials deserve all the more credit.*

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* I must make special mention of Dr A C Reed, whose work within the International Association of Music Libraries on the availability of music covers sound recordings as well as scores; Paul McNally, who is convener of the Audiovisual Services Committee of the Library Association of Australia; and Catherine Pinion, who has been active within IFLA, and whose work for the British Library is referred to elsewhere in this paper.

Availability of Audiovisual Materials

Before looking at audiovisual materials in more detail - and I repeat my warning that I am no expert in them - I should state three essential features of UAP. The first is that every country must be responsible for the supply of its own publications to its own citizens and to other countries (just as each country must be responsible for the bibliographic control of its own publications). The second is that availability must be planned - it cannot be expected just to happen - and it must be planned nationally. The third is that producers and distributors are just as much involved in availability as librarians. If this paper is more concerned with availability from the library to the user than from the producer or distributor to the library, it is not because I do not recognize the importance of the latter.

For present purposes I want to restrict my definition of audiovisual materials to the following categories:

Visual records: moving - film, videocassettes, videodiscs, other
still - slides, film strips, photographs, postcards, wall charts, posters, other.

Sound recordings: discs, cassettes, cylinders, pianola rolls, other.

Mixed media: tape-slide sets, etc.

Artefacts and 'realia': games, models, etc.

Computer discs and tapes containing ordinary text are not considered as AV media; like microforms, they are simply different means of storing the printed word. Computer software is a category on its own: it raises special problems, and is not included in the present discussion.

There are at least three general characteristics relevant to UAP that distinguish AV materials from printed materials. Firstly, nearly all AV materials require equipment of some kind in order to be used at all - unlike printed matter, which can generally be carried and used anywhere with no other equipment than the human eye. Electronic text is closer to AV materials in this respect; this feature incidentally creates one of the main obstacles to the acceptance and use of electronic text. Secondly, other institutions beside libraries are concerned with the collection of AV materials - in the case of some formats, more concerned than libraries. It follows that a variety of bodies must be involved if availability is to be improved. Thirdly, whereas printed materials can only (except in very unusual circumstances) be used individually, AV materials can be, and often are, used in groups, possibly large groups: a film or sound recording is or can be a public medium. This

profoundly affects the attitude of producers and production companies, and sometimes of professional unions, to the ways in which AV materials are made available - whether they are sold to libraries at all, and if so on what terms.

Let us then consider the availability of AV materials according to their main library (or rather institutional) functions: acquisition and provision, retention and conservation for future use, and interlending and remote supply.

Acquisition and Provision

The foundation of availability must be acquisition of the material to be made available: a simple and obvious truth often apparently forgotten or ignored in some countries, where elaborate interlending schemes are set up to achieve access to resources that are inadequate. Access depends ultimately on provision, and adequate provision must be made within each country.

If the principle that each country must be able to supply its own publications is to be observed*, some body or bodies must ensure that the publications are collected comprehensively. The most obvious way to do this is by legal deposit.

Legislation by itself is by no means enough to guarantee comprehensive collection, but without it comprehensive collection is unlikely to be possible: it is a necessary but not a sufficient condition. An international survey carried out recently by Catherine Pinion(15) revealed that at least 25 countries have active legislation, or legislation in progress, requiring the deposit of AV materials, not necessarily extending to all categories and formats. Sanctions in the case of non-deposit tend to be weak, and the effectiveness of deposit is hard to assess because there are no comprehensive lists+ of national production against which to measure intake. Of course, one main reason why there are no comprehensive lists is that there is no comprehensive collection: a classic vicious circle. The same is true of printed matter even in highly developed

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* An estimate of the amount of material produced each year in the UK(14) gave some 20,000 items, excluding broadcast material. This is known to be incomplete, but it is impossible to say how incomplete. About 75% of the items were sound recordings (the vast majority of them pop music); less than 10% were films or video recordings.

+'Lists' and 'listing' are used rather than 'bibliographic control', which is strictly applicable only to books and similar materials.

countries - for example, many local and privately produced publications escape deposit, because the national library does not know that they exist and the producers often do not know of the requirement to deposit - but on a much smaller scale. Local productions are probably more common in some AV formats than in printed matter.

With greater ability, and incentive, to publish privately, using word-processed text, a good printer and offset litho, the number of printed publications escaping the net is likely to increase, and with electronic text the problem becomes much worse, not least because it is amenable to frequent change. 'What constitutes publication?' will be a major issue for the printed (or unprinted) word. This is not a digression: very similar problems face AV materials. Is a tape-slide produced by a university for its own students, and made available on request to other institutions, 'published'? If it is updated from time to time, which version - or versions - should be deposited? Is an instructional film made by a large firm for in-house training in all of its sites, and sold as requested to other firms, published? (Perhaps the analogy here is 'grey literature' published by a firm). Is a recording of bird song made for a national broadcasting corporation published? All broadcast material is by definition issued for public use, but is it 'published' in the sense that an item put on public sale is published?

A further difficulty with the collection of national productions lies in the definition of 'national'. Is a commercial sound recording by a British orchestra on a German label British or not? If a recording is made in Britain but pressed in Germany, does that make it British? Does the fact that an item is produced in a country constitute an adequate criterion, as it does for most printed material? What other criteria can sensibly be used if a worldwide aim is, as it must be, to ensure comprehensive coverage across all countries?

The absence, or deficiency, of legislation, the unawareness of much of what is produced, and the difficulty of defining 'publication' and 'national', are three major problems. A fourth question is where AV materials are to be collected. A national library may or may not be the right recipient. Other bodies - for example, a national film archive - may already exist and be doing an effective job. Space and equipment are needed, and the national library may not have them. No institution should have a responsibility for collection unless it has the proper facilities for storage, equipment, and expertise; and an extension of the functions of a national library that has been geared to, and funded for, the collection of printed matters may not be easy to justify in principle or to put into practice for economic reasons.

Although legal deposit is the best and most obvious way of trying to ensure comprehensive collection of national productions, in countries where it does not exist the national institutions concerned are not exonerated from doing all they can. For this they will require the help of the producers, and some countries have remarkably effective schemes of voluntary deposit.

A collection of national productions would not of course constitute the whole of a national collection. Although the only simple and generally applicable criterion for 'national' may be that an item is produced in the country in question, a national collection could be considered incomplete if it did not cover, for example, national composers and major national artists. There has to be some limit here: obviously a national collection cannot reasonably acquire all films that include in the cast a minor part for an actor of the appropriate nationality, or all sound recordings of string quartets containing a national viola player. Equally, a national collection in, say, the Republic of Ireland with no sound recordings of John McCormack would surely be an absurdity, as would a Greek collection with no foreign recordings of its two most prominent contemporary composers, Skalkottas and Xenakis, or a Kenyan collection with none of the films made in or about the country.

Even with an extended interpretation of 'national', many countries would not be able to do much in the way of availability of AV materials unless a wide range of 'foreign' productions were also acquired. The aim should be to make available in the country a high percentage of the foreign AV materials likely to be wanted - 75 per cent at least, higher perhaps than for printed materials, which can more readily be borrowed from other countries. Guessing what is likely to be wanted is a skilled but uncertain task: the same problem applies to books. There is another difficulty that is more acute than it is for books. Without much better listing of AV materials all over the world, it is hard to know what there is. There are at least two approaches to this problem. Collecting can be done in each local library (or other institution), according to the needs and interests of users, in the hope that total national coverage will be both quite extensive and geared reasonably closely to the needs of potential users. They will also incidentally be in a much better position to collect local productions than a central body would be. A sub-option would be for the local bodies to cooperate to avoid unnecessary overlap, but the logistical difficulties of such a scheme would seem to rule it out. Alternatively, an intensive effort can be made centrally within a country to achieve wide coverage of productions from all over the world; this implies a powerful and well-funded central institution or institutions, which would either collect the material themselves or arrange for its collection by other libraries/institutions distributed over the country. This question of the organization of acquisition and provision is taken up again later, since it needs to take into account retention and interlending.

Mention should be made of the difficulties of obtaining much published material. Sound recordings, for example, go in and out of 'print' in seemingly capricious ways - so that at any one time there may be 15 recordings of a given popular symphony but a single recording of an important work may become unavailable in three or four months, just when it has been sufficiently reviewed to persuade some libraries to buy it.

Recordings that are nominally available are sometimes so difficult to acquire in countries other than those that produced them that only a librarian who knows the system thoroughly is able to use the appropriate channels. UAP, as stated earlier, covers a whole range of activities, including publishing and distribution; and publishers and distributors of audiovisual material could make things a great deal easier for libraries, and possibly for themselves. Governments too could make things a lot easier: customs barriers, including heavy duties in some countries can make import difficult, slow and expensive. Not all countries have signed, or observe, the 1948 Unesco agreement(16) intended to facilitate international movement of AV materials.

Retention and Conservation for Future Use

Acquisition is of little use unless the materials acquired are kept in a condition that allows for use in the future - preferably a long time into the future. Some materials - nitrate film is an obvious example - are inherently unstable, and unless converted to other forms (in this case acetate film) become unusable within a relatively short time. One problem is that the life of physical media cannot always be predicted, and experience with many media is too short to be a reliable guide. This means that regular checking of all kinds of media is essential. If conversion (or perhaps, in the case of digitally stored material, direct copying on to the same medium every few years) is necessary, it may be expensive, and money must be available for it.

A second problem is that media come and go. 35 mm film has given way largely to 16 mm film, and that may give way to video recordings. Video recordings may be in the form of cassettes, of which there are at least two major and several other incompatible varieties, or discs, which also exist in more than one variety, each requiring different equipment to use. Wax cylinders gave way to 78 rpm discs, which gave way to 33 rpm discs and cassettes (mercifully standard), which are beginning to give way to compact discs. Reel-to-reel tape is still in use for high quality reproduction, and likely to remain so. There must be many AV materials around today that cannot be used on any equipment that is obtainable today. To have a complete range of equipment to play every kind of sound and video medium that has been issued commercially, an institution would have to have an extensive museum of equipment - all maintained in working order. The obvious solution is to convert obsolete or obsolescent media to current media. This means guessing which

media are going to last some years, and even that is not easy. The cost of this continuing activity cannot be small. Copyright clearance might be needed, and this could be a serious problem in an area where producers come and go and copyright holders may be impossible to trace. It would certainly be undesirable for every institution to do its own conversion, even if it had the facilities; some central facilities are needed.

Some kinds of AV material require special storage conditions. AV materials, like books, are for use, but the use should not be such as to destroy the materials. Films are ideally kept in very cold temperatures, but because they have to go through a gradual acclimatization process this kind of storage is useless where films are likely to be needed quickly, as for broadcasting. A solution is to keep two copies, one archival and one for use, or to make a video recording for use, but this adds to the cost. Magnetic fields can damage cassettes irreparably, and lined rooms are ideally desirable. Accidental damage can easily occur, and here again two copies should be kept if possible.

Clearly every institution cannot have two copies of everything, nor can it have ideal storage conditions for one copy. National preservation must be a national responsibility.

One further element of a national system should be provision for the retention somewhere in the country of at least one copy of materials that are no longer needed in local collections - some kind of national repository system. Such a system should have appropriate provision for storage and conservation.

Finally, a wide range and good level of technical expertise must be available. Competence should exist wherever AV materials are collected and used, but at a national level a good deal more is needed.

Interlending and Remote Supply

Just as availability cannot be achieved by even the best interlending schemes unless the material wanted has been acquired, so even the best scheme for the acquisition of material cannot ensure availability unless the material can be made available to remote users; otherwise all users must travel to the collections, an unreasonable requirement in most countries and an impossible one in many. With printed material, publications can generally be lent or photocopied without undue difficulty, and the reasons why interlending systems do not work better, even when there is a reasonable acquisition system, is because they are poorly designed (if indeed they are designed at all), or badly operated, or both. With AV materials, there are other problems.

One of these is copyright. If the copying of journal articles is a sensitive matter, the copying of many AV materials is far more so, particularly so given the ease of copying sound

recordings on home equipment and the possibility of piracy for personal gain. If severe conditions are not to be placed on purchase by the producers, the lending and borrowing institutions have to abide strictly by a code of practice agreed with producers, which may for example prohibit the use of some material outside the borrowing institution. A model code of practice for the loan of different kinds of AV material, which could be adapted to national circumstances, would be a useful exercise - a task for the IFLA Round Table*?

A second problem is the possibility of damage. Damage can occur in transit; the risk can be minimized by good packaging, though this adds to the cost. Special transport schemes (using vans etc) are likely to prove more satisfactory than use of the mail, and transport schemes may favour local or regional schemes as compared with national schemes. Damage can also occur in use, whether by organizations or in individual homes. Faulty or imperfect equipment can do irreparable damage. The need to check material for damage on return can be very time-consuming and add to the cost of lending. Here too a code of practice would be useful. These problems can be solved by making copies, which need not even be returned; this is much easier for some kinds of material than for others, but it may run up against the first problem of copyright, and it requires appropriate duplicating equipment. This might be overcome by agreements with producers and the payment of fees by the requesting institution; this would assume that the items in question could not be bought in the normal way. If such a scheme were to be workable, it would have to be a standard scheme, and very simple to operate. It is possible to dream of such schemes, but hard to envisage them as a reality.

There is a third area of difficulty with some items, in that they are not wanted, as are nearly all books, for individual use but for viewing or hearing by groups, quite probably for a specific date and time, and possibly (in the case of educational materials) for a long period. This imposes quite special requirements on the system: if an item cannot be supplied as required, it is useless to supply it at all. There may be contractual restrictions, or the need to observe performing rights legislation. This problem - which is serious only if the materials in question are in much demand - could again be overcome in principle by the making of copies.

Contractual restrictions may not be confined to 'performing' use. It may be a condition of sale to an institution that an item may be used only on the premises, and not lent outside at all. Availability of such items is obviously very limited.

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* The Australian(17) or UK code (the latter based on the former) might form a basis.

A final problem is that interlibrary (or rather, interinstitutional) demand is evidently very low - in the UK possibly around 15,000-20,000 requests a year, compared with an average daily demand for printed publications of over 15,000. This may be partly because the supply system in most countries is poor and because there is no tradition of lending AV materials. There are also centralized distribution or hire agencies, which may handle many more requests. Even allowing for these factors the UK figure is very small, and would still be small if a good supply system resulted in a quadrupling of demand to 50,000. While this may mean that the scale of the problem of availability of AV materials is small in quantity (however important individual items may be to users), it also means that the range of solutions is very limited, because national systems that can achieve high efficiency and economies of scale for the supply of large quantities of printed material are likely to be ruled out. Certainly a comprehensive central collection or collections dedicated to remote supply - the most efficient system if demand is heavy enough - would be inconceivable. It may be added that since much of the use may be for purposes of leisure rather than research or education, expensive solutions that involve public funding may be difficult to justify nationally.

How far is electronic technology likely to change the situation? Sound and vision can already be transmitted over distances, and either heard and viewed directly at the receiving end or recorded there for subsequent use. However, transmission is costly, it cannot be guaranteeed to be fault-free, and copyright has once again to be taken into account. Storage in digital form makes transmission easier and cheaper, but unless channels are specially dedicated to transmission (they could of course be used also for digitally stored electronic text) the costs are still likely to be high enough to discourage use; and dedicated channels are likely to be restricted to a small number of institutions. A combination of dedicated communication links for the 'heavy' suppliers and users, and conventional lending for the remainder, may prove the best solution in the circumstances; or there could be a network of regional centres, which could receive material electronically and deliver it to institutions in its area in a 'hard' form.

Requirements for National Availability

Before looking at options for improving availability, let us review the requirements.

Acquisition and provision

- Comprehensive collection of 'national' publications
- Provision within the country of 'foreign' publications adequate to serve at least 75% of national requirements not met by local collections
- Comprehensive listing of 'national' publications (as by-product of national collection and aid to future collection)

Retention and conservation for future use:
- Wide range of equipment
- Capacity for conversion to different physical media
- Good storage conditions
- Technical expertise
- National repository system

Interlending and remote supply:
- National system of supply of loans or copies
- Facility for remote transmission between selected centres
- Observance of copyright
- Safe conditions for transmission and use.

Options for Improving Availability

The above statement of requirements by function is not intended to imply that the functions can be performed independently. On the contrary, it would make no sense, economic or practical, to do so. Availability should be planned as a whole.

It is clear from what I have said in my main text that some requirements can only be achieved nationally. Planning for acquisition, retention and interlending should be done nationally. Codes of practice for interlending must be national. More than that, some requirements need central action (not necessarily by a single centre): archival collection of national publications, listing of national publications, archival storage of national and other important publications, wide range of equipment (including some for playing 'obsolete' media), capacity for conversion to different physical media, ability to accept material withdrawn from other collections, and specialist expertise of a wide range and high level.

If this analysis is correct, there must be national centres which serve the functions of collecting national publications, storing and preserving them archivally, converting them as necessary, and maintaining a wide range of equipment and expertise. Such centres could also collect materials of major national interest though not published in the country, and they would be natural repositories for material withdrawn from other collections. Their conversion facilities and expertise could be made available to other collections.

Could such centres serve also the functions of interlending and remote supply? They could if they had, or were prepared and permitted to make, additional copies. If electronic transmission were possible and economic, they could use that for some materials to some centres, but for the immediate future conventional transport is likely to be used for the great majority of items. As noted earlier, this tends to favour local or regional systems, except perhaps in small countries. In any case, it is very unlikely that a national centre or centres would hold, and be able to supply, all materials required remotely, and even if the centre(s) were the first port of call its resources would need to be supplemented by those of other

collections. Indeed, since it is unlikely that the centre(s) would be able to collect all 'national' productions that were published locally, other collections would serve also to supplement the centre's national collecting role.

It appears then that interlending must involve other collections, whether these support centre(s) or are supported by it (or them). How many other collections should be involved must depend on national circumstances. It may be that there are several major collections that between them can handle the vast bulk of demand and make the inclusion of other collections in the system unnecessary: a union list of, say, 20 collections is very much easier and cheaper to construct, maintain and use than one of 100 or 200 collections. Union lists should be avoided if possible, if only because of the difficulty of integrating catalogue records of many audiovisual materials. A better solution than a union list may be a directory of resources; this can be constructed quite cheaply, and cover as many collections as necessary. Subject specialization schemes, if effective, could make even a directory unnecessary, but such schemes are difficult to operate on more than a local level. Nationally, a location guide of some kind is likely to be necessary sooner or later, and this should be a central responsibility.

I have so far avoided any discussion of <u>what</u> centre or centres should constitute the focus (or hub, or apex) of an availability system. Should there be one centre, covering all categories and formats? If so, should it be the national library? Or should there rather be different centres, according to format - one for sound recordings, one for films and video recordings, and one for 'miscellaneous' materials such as tape-slide productions?

Should broadcasting corporations be responsible for all their own sound and visual broadcasts? There are various permutations: one category could come within the national library (as in the United Kingdom the National Sound Archive is now part of the British Library), the others could be the responsibility of other bodies (to take the example of the United Kingdom again, one such body would be the British Film Institute, which maintains the National Film Archive).

There are advantages in divided responsibility, notably technical expertise. However, the expertise needed for one category may also be relevant to another (the care of audiotapes is not very different from that of videotapes), and what is gained in technical specialism by centres dedicated to a particular format may be lost in subject specialism, since it is very unlikely that every specialist collection can have a full range of subject knowledge. Moreover, from the user's angle it may be highly desirable to have one access point for material on his subject in all formats: a specialist in folk music would probably greatly appreciate access in one place to printed works, music scores, sound recordings, and video recordings. Of course, if UAP <u>really</u> worked, the specialist would be able to use all these materials at once in his local library - but that ideal will not be attained for some time.

The decision will ultimately be guided largely by what is practical. It is not practical or economic, for example, for a national library to start collecting films if another organization is doing it well already. Assuming there will be some division of responsibility, there needs to be coordination between the major bodies concerned, to ensure comprehensive collecting with no unnecessary overlap, comprehensive and compatible listing, similar conditions of access for consultation and remote supply, consistent codes of practice, and standard agreements with producers where necessary. Whether the national library or another body - perhaps even the national library association - should take the lead in coordination must again depend on local circumstances.

Because the best solution - ultimately the only really effective solution - is national, this does not of course mean that groups of libraries or other bodies in cooperation cannot do something to advance availability. Local, regional or sectoral activity is clearly a lot better than merely waiting for a national system that may never arrive; so for that matter is ad hoc cooperation between individual institutions. However, any arrangements other than very small or informal ones should be undertaken with a wider perspective in mind. For example, union lists or directories should be capable of merging with other such lists or of being enlarged with records of other collections. If there is to be scattered and patchy activity, let it at least be coordinated and consistent; otherwise a national system cannot develop out of the various activities, and either it will never come into being at all or it will have to start from scratch.

Although this paper concentrates on what librarians can do, because it is directed at librarians, it needs to be stressed again that availability depends also, to a larger extent even than with printed materials, on producers and distributors. Libraries can only acquire what they supply, and their cooperation is essential.

Conclusion

A broad survey of this kind is bound to leave many important aspects uncovered, or insufficiently discussed. Nevertheless, I hope I have demonstrated the need for a planned approach to the availability of AV materials, indicated at least some of the many problems, and suggested possible solutions. Assuming that you wish to improve availability in your own country, what should be your first steps? I would suggest the following:

A review of the present position, naming the major bodies and collections involved and identifying weaknesses in availability.

A meeting of the major bodies concerned to consider the problems and possible solutions - its first action might be to commission a detailed analysis of problems and solutions.

A campaign to extend legal deposit to AV materials, or to strengthen it if it already exists; meanwhile to encourage voluntary deposit.

A gradual extension of listings of AV materials in cooperation with producers (who have as much to gain as collectors).

One word of warning, which I have found to be necessary when speaking to almost any group of librarians. Because you cannot arrive at your ultimate destination - truly universal availability of AV materials - do not be content to stay where you are: the journey is interesting and rewarding, and you are bound to make some progress, however slow, whereas if you stay put you will find that you have moved backwards because the world has moved on. That there is a very long way indeed to go is shown by Catherine Pinion's finding that only a minority of countries appear to make any national effort to collect AV materials(15). The best is the enemy of the good, and salvation is by works as well as by faith. Maybe we should have called our programme Gradual Improvement of the Availability of Publications, but it comes less readily off the tongue, and I personally prefer the dramatic and sweeping term that was adopted.

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